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SAFARI PARK PLAN IS A STEP NEARER

By Lee Watton

THE West Midland Safari Park's expansion proposal moved closer to reality when draft plans for the development were submitted to council bosses.

The plans are for a number of major developments at the popular Bewdley attraction.

They include the creation of a hotel, an indoor water park and a link to the Severn Valley Railway.

The draft plans have gone to Wyre Forest District Council.

The document has been submitted so that further talks can take place with the authority and changes made to the scheme before a final version of the brief is formally submitted.

Spokesman Richard Boother, of RPS Planning, said sending the draft brief was an important and necessary step in the planning process.

"Essentially we have included details of all the proposals we are putting forward for the park in this draft plan and have sent it on a more informal basis to the council," he said.

Consideration

"This will allow talks to take place with officials from the authority on what we want to do. They will then be able to give us their views. It will allow any alterations to be made to the brief before the final version of the document is submitted to the council for consideration.

"The scheme is moving in the right direction and work is ongoing."

Once the final development brief is submitted, a final decision on its contents is not expected until the end of the year due to the scale of the plans.

If it is approved the first formal planning applications for developments at the site would be submitted in early 2013.

The proposed 250-bedroom hotel would be built in a safari style and offer visitors views over the attraction.

The park covers nearly 200 acres with a four-mile, self-drive safari. Other attractions include a sealion aquarium, reptile house and an amusement area.

Oyez! Voices are raised for competition





The competitors in good voice at Kidderminster town hall and, inset, Great Barr and Walsall town crier Cyril Richardson meets shoppers Pat Lees and Bonnie Bray from Stourport, during a break from the contest

TOWN criers from across the Midlands and further afield had plenty to shout about when they took part in an annual contest.

Kidderminster was the venue for the competition, which was watched and heard by more than 100 people.

The contest featured nine town criers from across the country, including Great Barr and Walsall's Cyril Richardson and Lichfield crier Ken Knowles.

Standing on the steps of Kidderminster town hall, the participants shouted out what was good about their home town.

Then they were given the task to let out a cry about the Queen's Jubilee.

Kidderminster's Town Crier Jim Pearman, aged 72, who is also lay minister at St Mary's Parish Church, said: "It was great to watch and hear.

"Plenty of people, at first bemused, came to look at what all the noise was about," he added.

The contest was won by Ken Knowles.

Go-ahead for move to reduce red tape

PLANS to attract new businesses and create thousands of new jobs by cutting red tape for developers in Wyre Forest have been given the go-ahead by Communities Secretary Eric Pickles.

The district council has been working on plans for a local development order at the former British Sugar site in Stourport Road.

It will allow the council to automatically grant permission for specific types of industrial and office developments on the site, which makes up the South Kidderminster Enterprise Park.

Council chiefs hope firms will be attracted to invest in the site and help create 4,000 new jobs.

Cabinet member for place shaping Councillor Julian Phillips said: "The council is leading the way to ensure the planning framework is in place to support the local economy and business growth.

"The introduction of this order will help us to cut red tape and reduce bureaucracy, creating a positive environment to expand and encourage new businesses."

Outline proposals put forward by the St Francis Group for 250 new homes, a hotel, railway station, business units, restaurant and care home to create 400 jobs were given the go-ahead by the council last month.

Theft bid at newsagent

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after an attempted robbery at a Stourport newsagent.

It happened at about 2pm on August 11, at Taylors Newsagent, in Areley Common.

Two men tried to grab a member of staff and take money from a till, but fled empty-handed. They were thought to be in their 20s, between 5ft 8ins and 6ft in height, with dark hair.

Witnesses can call 101, quoting incident reference 407-S-110812.

Town man named as victim of bike crash

A MOTORCYCLIST who died after his machine hit a wall in a crash near Stourbridge has been named as Richard Garfield of Kidderminster.

The 47-year-old, of Lansdown Green, was riding a Honda CBR 600 bike when crashed.

The bike hit the wall of a property at the junction of Bridgnorth Road and Wollaston Road in Stourton, on Sunday night.

Paramedics were called to the scene just after 10pm and found the motorcyclist on a grass verge.

Despite attempts by emergency workers to resuscitate him, Mr Garfield was confirmed dead at the scene of the accident.

An ambulance, a rapid response vehicle, a paramedic area support officer and West Midlands Ambulance Service's Medical Emergency Response Incident Team were sent to help Mr Garfield.

Police do not believe any other vehicles were involved in the crash.

Officers today renewed an appeal for witnesses to the accident to come forward to help with their investigation.

Anyone with information is asked to call Pc Matt Lovatt at Staffordshire Police on 101.

Police plea after arrests

THE police want to find the owner of a bike believed to have been stolen in the Wyre Forest area.

The orange, black and silver Apollo Slammer was seized when two men were arrested on suspicion of theft after a van carrying scrap metal was stopped in Kidderminster on August 1.

Stolen scrap metal and the bike were found in the van.

PC Billy Keys said: "We are asking people to get in touch if they have had a bicycle like this stolen recently."

Call PC Keys on 101.

The men were released on police bail until September 10.

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NEWS

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Tribute to 'wonderful son' who died in crash

THE parents of a 16-year-old who died when the car he was in crashed into a lake have paid tribute to their "wonderful son".

Ben Henshaw, of Alveley, near Bridgnorth, was to receive his GCSE results in a few weeks and was expecting to start an apprenticeship later in the year. But last Monday, the Peugeot 206 he was in left Patshull Road, Burnhill Green, near Pattingham, and plunged into a lake near Patshull Park Hotel.



Popular – Ben Henshaw

The 18-year-old male driver and a 15-year-old female passenger escaped. But Ben's body was found in the lake.

His parents Tim and Trudi Henshaw, paid tribute to him as a "wonderful son, brother and grandson who touched the hearts of all who knew him".

They said: "We are so devastated that Ben is no longer with us, he had such a great future ahead of him.

Popular

"Our much loved Ben will be sadly missed by all his family and all his friends."

Sarah Godden, headteacher at Oldbury Wells School, Bridgnorth, where Ben was a pupil, said he "was a happy, cheerful and popular student, much liked and respected by all staff and students".

Ben's funeral is tomorrow (Friday) at St Mary's Church, Alveley, at 2pm.

Witnesses to the crash are asked to call police on 101.

Curtain goes up on centre

THE new-look Rowland Hill Shopping Centre in Kidderminster is unveiled on Saturday.

The opening ceremony starts at 11am, performed by town mayor John Aston.

There will be free entertainment, children's games, a balloon modeller, face painting and displays. People can win £500 of holiday vouchers. Phil Dunn, centre manager, said: 'I'm certain the new look centre will prove popular."

3,000 flock to park play time



Steady as she goes – one of the activities on offer at the play day

ABOUT 3,000 people flocked to Play Day 2012 at Lickhill Memorial Park in Stourport.

The event, organised by Wyre Forest District Council to coincide with national Play Day, had a number of activities for visitors of all ages.

There was water zorbing, where people could walk on water while inside an inflatable transparent orb, and laser tag, a network of tunnels in which people could battle it out to be a hot shot.

But there were also donkey rides, stalls, a huge area dedicated just to play, interactive shows, and a music session for under-fives.

National Play Day aims to promote and engage families in physical activity and play.

The council's play team says more events are on the way. For details, see www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/summer

Councillor Ian Hardiman, the council's cabinet member for community wellbeing, said: "We're delighted with the success of the annual Play Day. Despite the mixed weather, it shows local people know how to play."

Jobs fair invitation to bosses

EMPLOYERS in the Wyre Forest area are being urged to take part in a jobs fair being held in Worcester next month.

The event has been organised by Worcestershire County Council in partnership with Job Centre Plus and the Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership.

It will be held at the Guildhall in Worcester city centre on September 12 and runs from 10am until 6pm.

Hundreds of people are expected to attend the event, which will feature firms based throughout the county.

Among the businesses already committed to taking part are Worcester Bosch, Webbs of Wychbold, David Lloyd, Debenhams and Oakland International Limited.

Other businesses are invited to take advantage of the free exhibition space on offer.

Firm spreading solar message

ECO2SOLAR, a Kidderminster-based company, has worked for free with Northfield Ecocentre, Birmingham, owned by the Central England Area Quakers, to nstall solar energy systems there. The installations will be an educational resource to show residents how they can use solar technology to protect the environment.

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NEWS

Traders call for free parking in bid to attract shoppers

A CAMPAIGN has been launched calling for more free short-stay parking in Kidderminster, amid fears that shoppers are being put off by charges.

Traders say more spaces should be provided to encourage people to visit the town centre rather than supermarkets on the outskirts.

by Adam Burling

Bosses at shops in Blackwell Street and Coventry Street have enlisted the help of ward councillor Nathan Desmond.

He has drawn up proposals for highways bosses at Worcestershire County Council to consider.

He says some of the streets adjoining the ring road, such as Waterloo Street, could be used and "redundant" double yellow lines removed.

Encourage

Dave Gibbons, manager of Bargain Booze, agreed and said: "Shoppers are keen to come to Coventry Street but the lack of immediate parking often prevents them from doing so.

"A short-stay free parking option in Waterloo Street would certainly encourage people to make use of the businesses and shops in Coventry Street and Blackwell Street."

Plans for a new Asda superstore and link road in the area were recently scrapped amid anger from traders who claimed they would be put out of business.

There are already four supermarkets on the ring road and businesses say they often struggle to compete.

And the town has been hit by the closures of chains TJ Hughes, Woolworths and The Officers Club in recent years.

Amandap Singh, manager of Papa John's pizza shop, said: "I know that our business has been affected by the lack of parking spaces.

"Being in the fast food business, our customers don't want to pay for parking.

"They need short term on-street parking and the lack of parking spaces has meant that sadly customers go somewhere else."

Councillor Desmond said roads such as Waterloo Street were not used for deliveries or residents' parking so should be opened up to shoppers.

He added: "I've met local traders and I understand their concerns."

Style and elegance for just £2.7m



The drawing room at the £2,750,000 home in Bewdley



The oak panelled dining room has splendid views

STANDING in idyllic countryside lies Beau Castle, a Gothic-style seven-bedroom home has gone on the market for £2,750,000.

A lookout tower, reached via an spiral staircase, offers panoramic views of the rolling Wyre Forest hills.

The striking property, which has been rented out as a holiday home, was built on the outskirts of Bewdley in 1877.

It was designed by former mayor of Birmingham and Bewdley, George Baker, along with art critic John Ruskin and architect Richard Doubleday, for a Quaker family. In an Arts and Crafts Venetian Gothic style, it has stained glass windows created by British artist Edward Byrne-Jones.

Other features include an oak panelled dining room with ornate plasterwork, which also offers picturesque views.

A marble staircase extends round the property from the drawing room to the first floor bedroom balconies on two sides of the house.

There are seven bedrooms, three reception rooms and a library.

The 12-acre grounds include a coach house and triple garage. There is also a private lake.

Property expert Tony Morris-Eyton, from estate agent Savills, said: "Beau Castle has its own magical appeal and is the epitome of the Arts and Crafts style.

"It is easy to see why the house is positioned where it is. The house is full of quirks and intrigue, with virtually every room having its own individual style."

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COMPETITION

Bella! Chance to win Italian look

LEEKES of Bilston is offering one lucky winner the chance to win a 'bella' Italian makeover for their home worth £500, to mark the launch of its new Italian Studio.

The family-owned home department store launched its 'Italian Living' collection at its destination store on Great Bridge Road this month.

This followed an increase in consumer demand for high quality Italian-inspired furniture and leather goods from leading brands including Calligaris, Editions by Natuzzi and Polo Divani.

Spirit

Capturing the spirit of Italian excellence and style, Leekes' Italian Studio occupies a space over 2,500 sq ft and showcases a wide range of contemporary and modern leather sofas as well as sleek, chic dining sets in glass, chrome, wood and marble.

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Leekes' Italian Studio has a range of contemporary and modern leather sofas

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Send your answer on a postcard with your name, address and contact number to Leekes Competition, Chronicle series (editorial), 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.
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● The winner is entitled to £500 Leekes store vouchers. No cash alternative. The judge's decision is final. Entrants must be 18 or over.

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Advertisement

A working union between two dental professionals is helping to bring about life-changing outcomes. Spritely Joyce was resigned to living with a crooked smile – until she became one of their patients.

Why Joyce's warm smile really is picture perfect



Transformation

PEOPLE say a picture is worth more than a thousands words. And for spritely Joyce, the old adage could not be more true.

Smiling confidently, the 76-year-old is happy to face the camera, but until recently "not even my husband could take my picture," she says.

A mysterious childhood accident, of which she has no recollection, left her with a "lopsided smile" and subsequent adult issues with her teeth added to the problem.

Not least was a memorable incident which resulted in one of her front teeth being broken in two.

The shorthand secretary/PA was persuaded by a work colleague to ask her dentist for denture. "What a mistake," she says. "I wish I had never had a denture because that's when my troubles began."

Joyce's dentist didn't offer another option – "but it was a long time ago," she recalls.

The natural ageing process was unkind to Joyce too. She was diagnosed with osteoporosis and it affected the bone density in her jaw and gradually her teeth became mobile.

"My teeth were loose, I had sores from my denture plate and my twisted smile made me feel uncomfortable and embarrassed.

"Over the years I have spent a fortune on dentures, but none of them helped me. There was no long-term solution.

"I couldn't eat properly, food would get trapped under the lower denture all the time and I was afraid to cough and afraid to laugh in case the denture came out."

Joyce was resigned to "going through life without a normal smile."

She adds: "I was convinced I had a plate in my lower jaw and it was only recently when I had dental X-rays I knew I hadn't."

A feature in her local weekly newspaper highlighting the work of denturist Steven Burchell DipCDT RCS(Eng) proved a turning point.

Fortunate

Mr Burchell of the Denture Clinic, which is based at the Parkdale Dental Clinic on Tettenall Road, Wolverhampton and in North Street, Dudley, said: "Although Joyce had lost her teeth, she was fortunate enough to have enough bone density to sustain two lower jaw implants to secure an implant-retained denture. It was the best clinical route to be sure of dealing with her long-standing stabilisation issues."

She was referred to Parkdale implantologist and principal Jonathon Pugh, BDS MSc, who carried out the surgery. Joyce adds: "I never dreamed the process could cure my twisted smile – but it has.

"My smile is now totally normal and I can eat whatever I want.

"Before, I would have to choose something soft off the menu. I use to long for a steak and to bite into an apple. Now it's no problem at all."

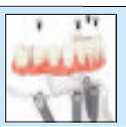
Her praise for Mr Pugh is unbridled: "He's king," she says, "and Steve . . . I cannot speak highly enough of what he's done for me. I've already got in mind to have implants for my upper denture."

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THE Denture Clinic has found satisfied customers from as far away as Spain. Its hand-crafted dentures, made on the premises, are known for their natural look. Denturist Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS (Eng), says: "Quality, traditional dentures can be hugely effective."

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NEWS

Voters make council's campaign a success

ELECTION officials at Wyre Forest District Council are delighted with the success of their "reply first time" campaign for annual electoral registration.

Sixty-five per cent of households have replied first time, either by using the phone or internet, or by returning their forms by post.

Spokesman Ian Miller said: "Responding by modern means has proved most popular – 57 per cent of those replying have used the internet or a phone to confirm their details, which is cheaper for the council.

"A second copy of the registration form is being delivered to the households that haven't replied.

"Sending a second form and, if that is not received, sending a canvasser to your door, is an expensive way to gather the information that enables you to vote. It is a legal duty to return the form and there is the risk of a fine of £1,000 if you don't respond."

The election for the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia will be held on November 15.

The electoral register, which contains the details of Wyre Forest people able to vote in the election, will be published on October 16 and will be available at libraries and the Worcestershire Hub in Stourport, Bewdley and Kidderminster.

For further information on registration, voting by post or by proxy, visit Elections on the Council website at www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk. Alternatively, phone customer services on 01562 732928 or visit the Worcestershire Hub.

Wild fun at safari park



The Hurtling Hippos ride in action at West Midland Safari Park

THE West Midland Safari Park has unveiled a new hippo ride that has taken seven months and £400,000 to create.

The Hurtling Hippos ride is the first amusement ride that has been specifically designed by West Midland Safari Park and is the only one of its kind.

Senior staff have worked closely with external agents and manufacturers to complete the project in time for Summer Nights – the park closes at 9pm during August.

Hurtling Hippos is one of 28 rides in the amusement area at the safari park. There is also Cubs Kingdom, an area designed especially for younger children.

For information about the park visit www.wmsp.co.uk

Bishop's Africa trip

THE Bishop of Worcester the Rt Rev John Inge has travelled to Tanzania to visit churches and hospitals. The Diocese of Worcester set up a link with the Diocese of Morogoro, and while he is there the bishop will preach at the cathedral.





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NEWS

Trainees celebrating



Jack Shaw, Josh Stanton and Anthony Parkes

THREE teenagers who have been finding out on a special course what it takes to be a firefighter, are celebrating after hanging up their training kit for the last time.

The three 17-year-olds were members of the West Bromwich Young Firefighters, known as the YFA. The group is based at West Bromwich fire station and meets on Friday evenings. It teaches 11 to 17-year-olds the techniques required to become a firefighter, taking part in not only fire service activities but also overnight stays, trips and community events such as remembrance parades and team building games.

Josh Stanton, from Brierley Hill, reached the role of senior YFA. Anthony Parkes, of Walsall, and Jack Shaw, of Tipton, achieved the rank of watch commander.

Charity puts spotlight on financial abuse threat

A CHARITY in Worcestershire is acting to put the spotlight on the financial abuse of elderly people.

The Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board is dedicating this summer to publicising the problem. In June a poster campaign was launched highlighting the effects of financial abuse on people with learning or physical disabilities, or those with mental health issues.

by Tim Spiers

Now a new campaign, backed by Age UK Herefordshire and Worcestershire, has been launched which focuses on older people.

It aims to shine a light on financial abuse of older people carried out by someone they know, or who looks after them.

Message

A poster will be displayed in the three acute hospitals in the county, as well as in the community hospitals, GP surgeries, pharmacies, libraries and hubs across Worcestershire.

It shows someone hugging an older person while subtly taking money from their handbag.

According to the charity, sometimes people don't realise what they are doing is abuse. They might take money given to them by the victim to buy them food or medication, and then use the change for their own means. The message in the campaign is that it is a crime and should be taken seriously.

Philip Talbot, chief executive of Age UK Herefordshire and Worcestershire, said: "Financial abuse is one of the biggest fears older people have, particularly as they become more dependent on other people."

The campaign was aimed at encouraging professionals and the public to be vigilant, he said.

"We can spot when someone's being mugged in the street, but noticing where people are taking advantage is much harder, which is why this campaign is so important."

More information is available on www.worcestershire.gov.uk/safeguardingadults

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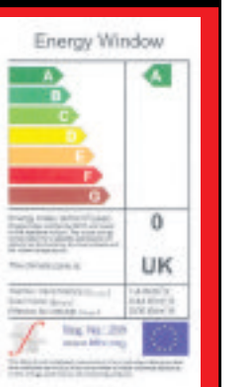
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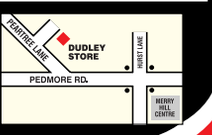
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LETTERS

Let's teach children competition

ONE long-term lesson to be learned from the Olympic Games is that the majority of our winners have received a private school education.

Yes, we know that facilities and coaching in these schools are of a different standard, but in my opinion, it is the retention of the competitive ethos both in sport and education which is just as important.

The Lefty "mustn't upset the kids by thinking they have failed" mindset of educationalists has resulted in an overweight generation, unable to cope with failure and presenting in many cases a less than acceptable image in victory.

The education establishment must rethink this social experiment.

They must realise that it is in the DNA of humans to compete with one another and that experiencing defeat at an early age presents a child with the capacity to cope with disappointment when it happens as a grown up.

And no, I'm not writing kids off as failures at an early age – quite the opposite.

I'm trying to get them to cope with life, but not as state school teachers in their ivory towers would want it to be.

It may never be possible for state schools to have the same coaching and facilities as the private sector.

But the mirage that everyone wins either in sport or education, and that we should have non-competitive games in junior schools, has done more to reinforce the class stratification which the Left claim to abhor than anything else.

Alan M Etheridge,
Catholic Lane,
Sedgley.

Celebrate wins with a cycling museum

WITH the success of our Tour de France and Olympic cyclists, it was inevitable that interest in cycling in this country would soar.

Since Wolverhampton was the original home of racing cycling, would it not be appropriate that some form of cycling museum be set up in the city?

The many successful cyclists from Wolverhampton (eg Hugh Porter) and further afield could be approached and asked if they would be prepared to donate/loan jerseys, medals, diplomas, photographs, press cuttings and anything else of interest – even cycles.

The centre could become a meeting point for former colleagues to renew old acquaintances.

Norman Newcombe,
Underlay Close,
Wall Heath,
Kingswinford.

LETTERS to the Editor

POST
Kidderminster Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

E-MAIL
kidderminsterchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Legacy of wonderful games will live on

IN response to Mr R A Sargeant (Chronicle, August 9), how sad to hear you missed the wonderful achievements of our young people in this special Olympics.

The equestrian events were wonderful, watching horse and ride in the dressage was breathtaking. The rowers demonstrated their stamina and skill, as did all the athletes.

The excitement of the Olympics lifts the spirit of so many people including the serving forces in Afghanistan. We were shown soldiers cheering on their captain as she received a gold medal.

Of course the games do not diminish the respect we have for our military heroes and the need to equip them well, but that's a different debate.

Mr Sargeant I urge you to gain some perspective. The games will bring a huge economic benefit to our country and the legacy will live on. You have missed so much by not watching Great Britain being truly great. You would be feeling much happier if you had.

Jean Brealey,
Franche, Kidderminster.

Welcome for service

REGARDING the item in the Chronicle "Estate gets a later bus" (August 9). It brings wider benefits in addition to improvements for Wribbenhall.

Whittle's have also started service, 2C, serving Crossley retail park.

We often hear the word "connectivity". Well, this initiative connects Kidderminster and Bewdley to the retail park for the first time for seven years.

Giles Angell,
Franchine Street,
Kidderminster.

Road waste

AFTER 30 years of the B4176 being riddled with potholes, this year they resurfaced it, close to Sutton Maddoc, with lovely smooth Tarmac, a real proper job. Now they have overlaid it with stone chippings WHY? What a complete waste of money and an unnecessary inconvenience to motorists. Who is responsible?

Chris Martin,
Arundel Road,
Wordsley, Stourbridge.

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Family of tragic Luke back calls for heart screening



Luke Chapman

THE parents of Luke Chapman, the Hagley boy who collapsed and died while playing rugby, have backed calls for a national heart screening programme.

His father Matthew, aged 47, said: "A lot die young – 800 a year, which is a whole school."

The Chapmans have been advised that close relatives of Luke should be tested to find out whether his condition could run in the family.

Luke,15, died from a sudden irregular heartbeat while playing rugby for his school at Kidderminster in March.

Halesowen 14-year-old Leon Mansell, met a similar fate in January last year, and fitness instructor Zoe Teale, of Cheslyn Hay, also died suddenly.

Birmingham Deputy Coroner Sarah Ormond-Walshe called for the Department of Health to consider a national heart screening programme after the inquest on Luke, of Meadowcroft.

The Department says it will reconsider the issue this year.

Cardiac pathologist Dr Mary Sheppard told the Birmingham inquest that 10 to 12 apparently healthy people aged under 35 died every week from sudden adult death arrhythmia – irregular heartbeat – in this country, often while doing sport. She said the figure could be 800 deaths a year.

The charity Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY), which offers screening sessions, some in the West Midlands, says that in Italy, where testing is mandatory for all young people active in sport, the sudden cardiac death rate has been reduced by 90 per cent.

The charity believes that everyone between 14 and 35 should have access to cardiac screening.

Firm boosts hospice event



John Walvisch, Andrew Stevenson, Graeme Burnell, Jay Bailey-Stephenson and Steve Clay, of Legal & General, at last year's Severn Valley Cycle Challenge

SUNDAY'S Severn Valley Cycle Challenge in aid of Acorns Children's Hospice has won the backing of insurance firm Legal & General.

The event will raise vital funds for children with life-limiting conditions.

Lucy Shepherd, Acorns international treks and challenges officer, said: "It is wonderful to have the support of Legal & General. It will ensure that we raise the maximum funds to support of our life-limited children."

The challenge will take a 20-mile route starting from Bridgnorth, or a 10-mile route from the Severn Valley Country Park passing by the Chelmarsh Reservoir and through the Wyre Forest, before reaching Bewdley.

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NEWS

Town's judo club basks in golden glow after Olympic Games success

KIDDERMINSTER'S Samurai Judo Club has been looking back at its own Olympic Games successes.

Twelve members or former members of the club were involved in some way with the London games.

Kelly Edwards, under 48kg, and Danny Williams, under 73 kg, both competed as part of Team GB.

Club member Kate Walker, who had fought against a shoulder injury during the development period, narrowly missed a place in the team.

But a number of the Samurai officials were involved in what has been one of the most successful Games ever.

Stefan Newbury's job at the athletes' village started at 4.30am each day, as he was conducting the weigh-in for the judo players.

Cameras

Then he, his brother Ben, Sarah Biles and Archi Shrimpton were in the arena throughout the judo competition. Stefan was operating the electronic scoreboards, which involved timing the contests and hold-downs, and recording the scores.

Archi and Sarah were operating one of the cameras recording each contest so that any queries regarding scores or penalty actions could be reviewed by the refereeing jury. And Stefan was on the team which recorded the scores and penalties awarded in each contest.

Stefan and Archi are among Britain 's best young referees, both with ambitions to referee at Olympic level.

Stefan's younger brother Ben was in the IT team ensuring that the information recorded by Stefan was transmitted to appropriate computers.



Stefan Newbury, Archi Shrimpton, Sarah Newbury, Sarah Biles and Ben Newbury on the field of play at the end of the judo competition



Ben Newbury on the left behind Russian president Vladimir Putin, and Stefan Newbury in front of Putin and David Cameron

It all meant that Stefan, Ben, Archi and Sarah all had ringside seats throughout the competition. At one point Stefan was almost sandwiched between Russian President Valdimir Putin and Prime Minister David Cameron, with Ben behind Putin.

They were also at times next to Lord Coe, Francois Hollande the President of France, and British foreign secrettary William Hague.

Club chairwoman Sarah Newbury's main job was as a member of the information team working in the athletes' village and at the Excel centre. The team provided team leaders and national Olympic commission representatives with all the information they needed. They also had to deal with such enquiries as where to buy a legal judo kit – it was surprising how many of the smaller countries came without one.

Kate Walker's mum was showing spectators which way to go and club member Carlene Hill did the same for the contestants. Amanda Curley and former club member Carol Leverton at the training venue made sure that all competitors had the right judo suits. And Malcolm Limrick, club president, was part of the sports information team with Sarah Newbury. Sarah said: "We are sad that the Olympics are over but excited that we are to go back for the Paralympics."

She added: "I feel so privileged to be able to say 'I was there'. We have all smiled constantly for over two weeks."

Sarah Biles, the club's vice-chair, described it as "an awe-inspiring experience". And Ben Newbury said it was "a once in a lifetime event".

Stefan Newbury described it as amazing, and Samurai Head Coach Andrew Haffner said: "The Olympics have been a great experience."

● The club has sessions for new members, with children's beginners aged six-eight years on Thursday evenings and ages eight-14 on Fridays, sessions starting at 6.20 pm. Adult beginners start on Thursdays at 7.30pm and there are three courses starting for older parent players in September. For more information telephone 0776 1122977 or go to the club's website at http://www.samurai.org.uk/

Farmers' market a hit with shoppers

KIDDERMINSTER'S Farmers' Market got off to a flying start last Friday when 11 local food producers attracted a crowd of customers outside the Swan Centre.

Opening the event, Council Chairman Stephen Clee welcomed the farmers and complimented them on their fine display of fresh food.

With Councillor John Aston, Kidderminster's deputy mayor, he toured the stalls. On display were meat, vegetables, pies, spices, seeds, cakes and even local wines and home-produced jewellery.

By mid-morning the market trade was brisk, and by mid-afternoon, the farmers were in buoyant mood.

"We've had a very good day's trading," said Henry Wormington, co-ordinator of the Worcestershire Farmers' Market group, "and we'll be back in September with more farmers and producers".

Councillor Clee said: "Not only are we delighted to support local food producers, but we're glad to see such an attractive event bringing more footfall into the town centre."

The next Kidderminster Farmers' Market in on September 14. For more information contact the Town Centre Manager on 01562-732534.



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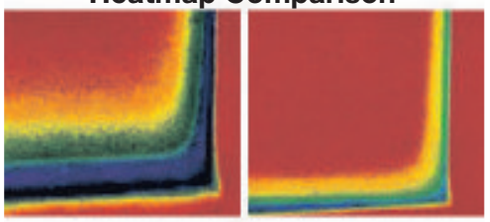




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SARAH nice looking blue eyed slim brunette, WLTM similar lonely male for fun times hopefully leading to ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394575** 🖹

MADDIE extremely passionate female 37, seeks reliable male to enjoy the finer things in life and tactile relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394565** 🖹

PAULINE divorced female on the wrong side of 40 looking for adult fun with easygoing highly driven man if you get my drift? **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394463** 🖹

SLIM male, seeks lady 35-45, size 12-18, GSOH for friendship, possible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394591**

BLONDE attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818** 🖹

BIG bubbly black female, single mum, looking for male for nights in and out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392501** 🖹

CHRIS attractive slim sophisticated redhead, seeking male 30-50's to relax with and get to know. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392401** 🖹

DENISE tall leggy good looking single mum, easygoing, enjoys nights in/out, animals, WLTM tall male for fun times possibly more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391873** 🖹

SLIM 32yr old blonde, kind, caring, good listener, honest, likes to have fun, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 339373** 📷

YVONNE looking for Christian male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391135** 🖹

MADELINE 5ft black seeks male 26-41 with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375789**

IRENE 55, blonde hair, brown eyes, loving, caring, genuine, N/S, lots of love to give, seeks male, 55-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392807**

HELEN 34yr old single mum slim intelligent, seeks nice male for adult companionship with good potential for a great relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394121** 🖹

SUSIE gorgeously feminine and sensual, loves lazy summer days, misses male companionship WLTM someone with sense of adventure and lust for life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394117** 🖹

LOUISE youthful looking female looking for spontaneous male to put some love and lust back into life. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392491** 🖹

SARAH 23, attractive, brunette, slim, looking for male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392979** 🖹

KAREN witty female who loves to laugh, WLTM similar male to share interests, romance, cosy nights in and more. Pls call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393125** 🖹

CARING lady, 52, brown hair/eyes, seeks male, 30-60 for socialising, meals out, cinema, music, sports and having a laugh. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392883** 🖹

FARMER'S granddaughter, OHAC, stunningly attractive, respectable, sincere, WLTM countryman/batchelor, 48-62, 5ft 9ins plus, genuine, uncomplicated with GSOH and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387204**

POLLY dark hair, 50, attractive, outgoing, seeks special outgoing male for days out etc. Telford. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 371127** 🖹

BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384852** 🖹

LOVING caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 364651** 🖹📷

SUE 5ft 2ins female, brown hair/eyes, loving, likes music, socialising, films, good times, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393223**

LADY widow, 58, slim, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks smart, intelligent, easygoing man with GSOH who enjoys conversations, days out, short breaks, meals out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387247**

SALLY slim attractive feisty redhead, intelligent, easygoing, WLTM similar male for friendship and more, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393469** 🖹

WIDOW 70, genuine, kind, caring, laidback, seeking male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387013**

EASYGOING down to earth female, likes cooking, exploring new things in life, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386893** 🖹

LADY young 60, outgoing, friendly, smart, likes cinema, shopping, meals out, seeks similar female friends for days out and evenings. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387117**

39YR old single female, hurt in past, animal lover, likes most things, seeking genuine man for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386887** 🖹

CLARE good looking, beautiful blonde, seeks male for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378209** 🖹

LOUISE 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, GSOH, kind, caring, honest, genuine, loving, WLTM male, 43-55 with similar qualities for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376165** 🖹

MANDY 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360317** 🖹

ALICIA 19yr old green eyed female, very attractive, slim, long hair, independent, looking for fun with mature male, no time wasters. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 390059** 🖹

ANNA 29yr old nurse, 6ft curvy auburn beauty, likes cosy nights in, genuinely seeking older, well built male to look after, 40-69yrs. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375139** 🖹

SARAH 38, slim, nice looking, tactile, no ties, WLTM kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378483** 🖹

PAULINE attractive petite nurse, loves evenings in/out, looking for honest male to share loving friendship and good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 379535** 🖹

VICKY honest caring female 33yrs, GSOH, loves meals in/out, travel, cinema, WLTM someone to enjoy nice things in life with and romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383911** 🖹

HOME alone with no one to call my own! 38yr old girl looking for fun. Can travel. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363277** 🖹📷

STACEY young 20yr old looking for fun. Call me to find out more. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382091** 🖹

JANE 46, single mum, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 380591** 🖹

CURVY red haired female, been hurt in the past seeks older male to buy her flowers and mend her broken heart. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377432** 🖹

GENUINE female, 36, brunette, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, fun, outgoing, adventurous, GSOH, looking for tall, honest, genuine male for good companion, dates and romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388327** 🖹

SINGLE MEN

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38YR old slim, genuine male, GSOH, seeks female, 40-55 to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392330** 🖹

DUNCAN 43, attractive, honest, sincere, looking for attractive lady for friendship/companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392328** 🖹

CHRIS GSOH, loving, loyal, likes walks, music, seeks female to love and treat well. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392320** 🖹

JOHN seeking dominant male to bring out my feminine side. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394705** 🖹

SEAN 45, caring, kind, loving, animal lover, seeks female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394149** 🖹

LOOKING for love, young 62yr old N/S male, 5ft 9ins, blue eyes, sincere, genuine, OHAC, seeks N/S lady with no ties. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394017**

JOSEPH 40 tall, GSOH, seeks female, 26-48 for fun and relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394103** 🖹

GOOD looking male, brown hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, seeks female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392092**

HONEST loyal male, 64, seeks lady for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393759** 🖹

DAVE 47, well built, divorced, 2 children, WLTM lady of similar age for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393789** 🖹

DON 55, 5ft 6ins, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks lady, any age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392100** 🖹

5FT 6ins male, blue eyes, generous, likes a drink, cinema, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392094** 🖹

32YR old slim, dark haired male, adventurous, creative, likes music, walks, cycling, photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753** 🖹📷

THOMAS 39, seeks female, 27-48 for relationship and fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392851** 🖹

45YR old male, average build, GSOH, likes country walks, meals out, don't be shy, now reply. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393137** 🖹

KIND honest, caring male, 70, likes socialising, holidays, OHAC, seeks female, 60-70 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393053**

DARK handsome male, Tiger Woods lookalike, seeking BBW. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392179** 🖹

DUNCAN 43, attractive, honest, sincere, looking for attractive lady for friendship/companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392328** 🖹

TALL good looking guy 48, smart, friendly, GSOH, seeks female for fun only friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394229** 🖹

CHRIS GSOH, loving, loyal, likes walks, music, seeks female to love and treat well. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392320** 🖹

MATTHEW 5ft 3ins, medium build, good body, seeking fit female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393743**

TIGER Woods lookalike, seeks big beautiful woman for fun and games. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393737** 🖹

MALE 70's widow, kind, honest, caring, likes socialising, holidays, nights in/out, seeks loving female for respectful, caring relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393559**

GOOD looking 48yr old male, GSOH, honest, caring, loyal, hurt in past, looking for loving female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394159** 🖹

PROFESSIONAL male, 42, hurt in past, seeks female, 32-40. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392769** 🖹

NAUGHTY 40 something, tall, smart, GSOH, seeks lady for rainy days and Sundays. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392665** 🖹

TOM 62, fit, likes tennis, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392659** 🖹

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MALE 44, seeking male, 18-23 for fun relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391626** 🖹

BI male, divorced, young, fit 50, own home/business, seeks male, 18-45 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391849** 🖹

MALE 58, youthful, serene nature, understanding, loyal, honest, seeks similar mature female for everlasting relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391833**

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CLUB NEWS

A day in the life of a hotelier

PENN TG

AT THE July meeting, the usual business was followed by a report from Annie Woods on the National AGM at the ICC in Birmingham.

The speaker for the evening was Mr Thornton on a day in the life of a hotelier. He and his family had owned several guest houses and then moved on to a larger hotel in Weymouth.

The social evening on July 18 was open to visitors. Stephen Dean gave an exciting talk about the Staffordshire Hoard.

Patsie Jarman gave a talk on the "Pleasure Gardens of Old London" at the group's Social Studies evening. In the 1700s rich people bought green spaces around London and developed them into luxury gardens with rare plants and trees.

Vauxhall Gardens were open from 1661-1859 and Samuel Pepys was a frequent visitor.

Families began to enjoy an evening out with informal entertainment, previously the privilege of royalty.

The main attraction was that the sexes could meet freely without the constraints normally imposed on socialising.

Other gardens mentioned were Ranelagh Gardens which are now part of the grounds of Chelsea Hospital and the site of the Chelsea Flower Show and Cremorne Gardens between the Thames & the Kings Road.

Club meetings are held at Penn United Community Hall, Penn Road, and will resume in September.

Past president hands out cheque to hospice



Jerry Hobbs, of Compton Hospice, receives a cheque from Pam Garrington

INNER WHEEL CLUB OF SEDGLEY & WOMBOURNE

PAST President of the Inner Wheel Club of Sedgley &Wombourne Mrs Pam Garrington presented a cheque for Compton Hospice to Mr Jerry Hobbs, one of the board of trustees at the hospice. The money was raised at a Ladies Evening held during her year and has been shared between Compton Hospice and Breast Cancer Care.

Club's alternative Games

KIDDERMINSTER SOROPTIMISTS

GETTING into the London 2012 spirit, Kidderminster Soroptimists held their own alternative Olympics when 50 or so members, family and friends gathered in Far Forest for a range of games.

To a rousing chorus of 'Chariots of Fire', president Hilary Thompson declared the Games open with four 'national' teams representing GB, Germany, Zimbabwe and a special team Cornwall. The Olympic Flame was lit taking the form of five different coloured garden flares.

There was fierce competition for the golf, petanque and croquet with a particularly lively giant garden Jenga contest. A break for refreshments and ice creams was followed by pistol and arrow shooting through hoops – aiming 'velcroed' balls at a target – and bagel discus throwing.

The final race with a twist was balancing a plastic plate on one's head without dropping it. Each winning team was presented with a gold medal, followed by an afternoon tea picnic.

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Travel back in time to see the history of The Rowland Hill Centre and Kidderminster town centre



NEWS

Museum offers time-travelling fun



Ronnie and Sophie Chamberlain and Ellie Cotton, right, all from Kidderminster, enjoying making Greek pots

WORCESTERSHIRE County Council's museum at Hartlebury Castle is taking visitors on a journey through time this summer.

A programme of fun family craft activities will cover every era of history. Each week has a different historical theme taking visitors from dinosaurs up to the Second World War.

So far the museum has had more than 200 children enjoying craft activities covering the Romans, Egyptians, Vikings and Aztecs. Up to tomorrow (Friday), Tudor activities include clay gargoyles, knights, and plague pouches

From August 21 to 24, it's the Georgians to the Second World War, including Georgian fans, Victorian scullery, Punch and Judy puppets, and make a First World War pilot. From August 28 to 31, it's dinosaur activities, including cave art, snake mobiles, fossil making, sea crocodiles and neolithic pots

Three different activities specially designed for youngsters take place every Tuesday to Friday in August.

It costs £1 per child for a day's worth of activities after the normal admission fee (£13 for a family ticket). For more information call 01299 250416.

Step forward for project

THE project to save Stourport Civic Centre has taken another step forward.

Stourport Town Council has unanimously agreed to continue to work towards acquiring the centre. The move came after the council's treasurer produced an initial feasibility report on the scheme.

A steering group and the town council have been working to create a multi -use community hub and community managed theatre at the centre after Wyre Forest District Council vacate it later this year.

The district council has agreed in principle to transfer the building to community ownership and to provide a £500,000 to refurbish it and help to establish public services there.

The feasibility report recommends that the town council continues to work towards acquiring the centre and continues to seek professional advice and support.

It says the project may mean an increase in council tax paid by Stourport residents.

But Councillor John Holden, chairman of the town centre working party said: "This is another big step forward. We are all keen to move this exciting project forward but need to make sure that we have explored all the options and received the best advice possible before making a decision. This is a great opportunity but also a very challenging project."







Are you or would you like to become a market trader/car booter?

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The market has been established fifteen years, but is now under new management, situated on a purpose built tarmac site in Bilston town centre (next to Morrisons supermarket and the bus station) with free parking. A very busy vibrant trading area, open from early until 1pm every Sunday. It it's legal - you can sell it here!

Exchange wet muddy cold fields for the sheltered, dry, warm, buzzing Bilston facilities while you can!!!

Visit www.lsdpromotions.com or call 07736 777244.



Shakespeare gets a Catalan twist in Rep's Forests drama

AN INNOVATIVE programme is planned for Birmingham Rep, as it prepares to move back to its revamped home.

The Rep has been undergoing a transformation as part of a multi-million redevelopment at Centenary Square building an iconic new library for the city.

A new purpose-built 300-seat auditorium will be opened in 2013. There will also be a studio theatre, rehearsal rooms, set-building facilities and dressing rooms.

The Rep has been taking productions to venues in and around the city during the past year.

It's autumn programme will start with Forests, at The Old Rep, Station Street, from August 31 to September 15.

Radical

It is a radical interpretation of Shakespeare bringing together forest scenes from many of his plays. It will feature a UK-Catalan cast and is directed by controversial Barcelona-based director Calixto Bieito.

Our Country's Gold by Timberlake Wertenbaker will be at the same venue from September 25-29 and Alan Sillitoe's The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner from October 2-6. Sean O'Casey's The Plough And The Stars will be staged from October 9 to 31.

For details see the www.birmingham-rep.co.uk website.

Comic triple bill at Glee

COMEDIAN John Fothergill is at Birmingham comedy venue The Glee Club tonight (Thursday), tomorrow and Saturday night, with support from Gary Delaney and Karl Spain.

Forthergill is a lively Geordie. It was while working as a casual scenery mover at a theatre that he found his true calling. Meanwhile, Delaney is a master of razor sharp one-liners while Spain found comedy after failing to become a model.

On August 23 TV comic Zoe Lyons will play a gig at the Hurst Street venue.

See www.glee.co.uk



Carl Hester winning Olympic gold in the dressage with his stallion Uthopia

Riding show strikes gold with Olympic win routine

OLYMPIC gold medal winning dressage rider Carl Hester will perform in Birmingham later this year as part of the Spanish Riding School's 2012 UK tour.

The Team GB rider will be opening the show at the NIA, which runs from November 16 to 18, on his black stallion Uthopia.

Carl will perform his gold medal winning routine from the Olympics and give a masterclass in dressage moves.

Lipizzaner

He will tell the audience behind-the-scenes stories from London 2012, where the dressage trio he led won Team GB's first gold in the sport for 60 years.

The show hosted by TV presenter Nicki Chapman will feature stunning displays from the famous white Lipizzaner stallions.

Tickets are priced from £25 to £65 (plus fees), from website www.theticketfactory.com or on 0844 338 8000.

Artists asked to face the Dragons

ARTISTS from the Wyre Forest area who have an idea for a creative project have the chance to gain a grant of £1,500 to make their idea a reality.

A Dragons Den-style event will be held at Kidderminster Town Hall, in Vicar Street, on August 20 from 10am.

Artists will be given 15 minutes to pitch their ideal to a panel of experts to persuade them to provide the funding.

The successful projects will form part of next year's Kidderminster Arts Festival.

To enter people must book an appointment by calling the Arts Team on 01562 732928 or e-mail arts@wyreforestdc.gov.uk

Put a price on your collection

COLLECTORS have a chance to see what their treasured hoards are worth.

They are invited to bring along their coins, stamps, medals and postcards to be valued at an event taking place near Kidderminster.

Lockdales auctioneers will be holding the free valuation and buying in event at the Gainsborough House Hotel, in Bewdley Hill, Kidderminster.

It's on Friday between 10am and 2pm.

People can bring along their items for a free valuation and, if they wish, can consign their goods to auction or sell them for a cash sum.

Country fans on way to festival

FANS of country music will descend on Stourport for a two-day event.

The Country and Western Festival is at Stourport Riverside on Saturdayand Sunday.

Live bands will take to the stage to perform and there will be a number of trade and craft stalls selling jewellery, clothing, hats and other goods. The event is free but there is a charge for some of the activities.

Overnight camping is available. For details call 01562 732994 or e-mail alison.bakr@wyreforestdc.gov.uk

Band to take the stage at park

COUNTRY and western band Knoxville Highway will be performing at Kidderminster's Brinton Park on Sunday.

The group will take to the stage at the park in Sutton Road between 2.30pm and 4.30pm.

Entrance is free and the concert is part of the Bands in the Park series which runs every Sunday until August 26.

Afternoon of live music in gardens

BEWDLEY'S QEII Jubilee Gardens hosts an live music on Sunday afternoon.

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What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 18.08.12

CHOICE



Sunetra Sarker stars

Casualty
BBC1, 9.10pm
The medical drama returns for its 27th series, and a new dawn is on its way in the shape of Zoe, who steps up to become the department's first-ever female clinical lead. She faces a difficult decision thanks to a local musical festival that goes wrong. Its stage goes up in flames, and as the crowd rushes to leave, an exit tunnel collapses, causing numerous casualties. Tom and Sam work quickly on the injured, while Tamzin, Jeff and Dixie try to help those still trapped – but things get personal when one of the medics ends up in a spot of bother.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Lorraine's Fast, Fresh and Easy Food. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** Olympics 2012 Opening Ceremony. Highlights of the show produced by Danny Boyle. (R) **3.45** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **5.25** Total Wipeout.

6.25 Film: Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull. (2008) The globe-trotting archaeologist races against Soviet agents to find a mysterious artefact of untold power. Action adventure sequel, starring Harrison Ford and Cate Blanchett.

8.20 The National Lottery: Secret Fortune. High-tension quiz show presented by Nick Knowles in which contestants have the opportunity to win £100,000.

9.10 Casualty. New series. Zoe's first day as the ED's clinical lead gets off to a hectic start as the team has to deal with casualties injured in a disaster at a music festival.

10.00 BBC News; Weather.

10.20 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of today's Premier League clashes on the opening day of the campaign, including Arsenal v Sunderland and Newcastle United v Tottenham Hotspur.

11.40 The Football League Show. Highlights and all the goals from today's fixtures in the Championship, League One and League Two, on the opening weekend of the season; National Lottery Update.

1.00 Weatherview. **1.05** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **12.05** The Sky at Night. (R) **12.25** Animal Park. (R) **1.25** Bargain Hunt Famous Finds. (R) **1.55 Film:** Alvarez Kelly. (1966) **3.45 Film:** When Time Ran Out. (1980) **5.30** Escape to the Country. (R)

6.30 Flog It! Charlie Ross and Mark Stacey search for antiques in Monmouth, while Paul Martin learns about the work of Laura Ashley and meets an artist in the Forest of Dean. (R)

7.30 Dad's Army. Sergeant Wilson is appointed manager of the Eastgate branch of the bank. Comedy, starring John Le Mesurier. (R)

8.00 BBC Proms 2012. Marin Alsop conducts the Sao Paulo Symphony Orchestra in a concert of music from North and South America by Dvorak, Copland, Joan Tower, Villa-Lobos and Ginastera.

10.00 QI. Guests Robert Webb, Phill Jupitus, Ronni Ancona and regular panellist Alan Davies join host Stephen Fry, who asks questions on the topics hypnosis, hallucinations and hysteria. (R)

10.30 TOTP2. Mark Radcliffe introduces archive performances by BJ Thomas, Billy Ocean, Prefab Sprout, Five Star and Ralph McTell. (R)

11.30 Film: Shifty. (2008) Premiere. A cocaine dealer finds his life transformed by the return of a friend and confronts the bleak future he finds himself facing. Drama, with Riz Ahmed and Daniel Mays.

12.55 Film: Freestyle. (2010) **2.25** Close.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **7.20** CITV. **8.25** Saturday Cookbook. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.20** The Real Housewives of New York City. **12.15** ITV News; Weather. **12.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **1.25 Film:** Cool Runnings. (1993) **3.20 Film:** Octopussy. (1983) **5.45** Regional Programme; Weather.

6.00 ITV News; Weather.

6.15 You've Been Framed Rides Again! Harry Hill narrates a compilation show featuring some of the funniest clips sent in by viewers, including a spectacular case of stage fright and a dog with an identity crisis.

7.15 Red or Black? New series. Ant and Dec present the game show in which eight contestants compete to win a huge cash prize by guessing the outcome of a series of stunts and challenges. Continues at 9.15pm.

8.00 The X Factor. New series. Dermot O'Leary hosts the auditions in London and Newcastle, where hopefuls try to impress Gary Barlow, Tulisa, Louis Walsh and this year's new judge Nicole Scherzinger.

9.15 Red or Black? Including a spelling contest between Carol Vorderman and Jonathan Ross.

10.00 The Jonathan Ross Show.

11.10 ITV News; Weather.

11.25 Film: The Break-Up. (2006) Comedy drama, starring Jennifer Aniston and Vince Vaughn.

1.20 The Store; ITV News Headlines. **3.00** In Plain Sight. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

CHANNEL 4

6.05 Channel 4 Presents: London 2012 – Ellie Simmonds Part III. The swimmer completes her preparations for the Paralympics. (R) **6.10** British GT. **6.35** The Grid. **7.00** Ben Rushgrove. Documentary about the British Paralympic sprinter. **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.55** T4: Ibiza Rocks: Plan B. (R) **9.10** T4: Cheryl: T4 Special. (R) **9.40** T4: New Girl. **10.15** T4: Revenge. **11.15** T4: Suburgatory. **11.50** T4: Summer Daze. **12.20** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.55** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.30** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.55** Channel 4 Racing. **3.55** V Festival 2012: Live. **4.20** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.55** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.25 Channel 4 News.

6.55 4thought.tv. A woman who says she has seen the ghosts of her pets.

7.00 Film: Mission: Impossible 2. (2000) A secret agent battles a former spy-turned-criminal mastermind intent on stealing a deadly man-made virus. John Woo's action thriller sequel, starring Tom Cruise.

9.15 Micky Flanagan's Out Out Tour. A performance by the cockney comedian.

10.15 Frankie Boyle: If I Could Reach Out Through Your TV and Strangle You I Would. A 2010 performance by the controversial comedian.

11.20 The IT Crowd. Jen goes on a date. (R)

11.50 Music on 4: V Festival 2012: Saturday Highlights.

1.25 Vic Reeves Big Night Out. (R) **1.55** Comedy Lab. (R) **2.20** Chelmsford 123. (R) **2.45 Film:** Machan. (2008) **4.30** Countdown. (R) **5.15** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Power Rangers Samurai. **10.35** Batman: The Brave and the Bold. **11.10** Looney Tunes. **11.15** Looney Tunes. (R) **11.25** Monkey Life. (R) **11.55** Celebrity Big Brother. (R) **12.55 Film:** King Solomon's Mines. (1950) **3.00 Film:** Little Women. (1994) **5.15 Film:** Jesse Stone: Thin Ice. (2009)

7.00 Cricket on 5. England v South Africa. Highlights of the third day of the series-concluding Third Test, held at Lord's.

8.00 5 News Weekend.

8.05 NCIS. A suspected drug-smuggler is seemingly killed by his own dog, which is immediately scheduled to be destroyed – but Abby refuses to hand it over and launches her own investigation. (R)

9.10 Celebrity Big Brother. Highlights of the famous housemates' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to living alongside one another.

10.10 CSI: Miami. Horatio investigates the killing of a Mexican sheriff's husband, but his search for clues forces him to confront his wife Marisol's murderer Memmo Fierro.

11.05 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. A waiter is murdered at the home of an ageing showgirl, while Sara and Greg discover $1million in old banknotes hidden under a closet. (R)

12.05 SuperCasino. **4.00** HouseBusters. (R) **4.25** Divine Designs. (R) **4.50** Rough Guide to Activity Holidays. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes **7.15** The Premier League's Most Amazing Moments **9.15 Film:** Lesbian Vampire Killers (2009) **10.35** Russell Howard's Good News **11.05** Family Guy **11.50** American Dad!

BBC Four
7.00 Africa's Magnificent Beasts **8.00** The First World War from Above **9.00** Wallander: The Fifth Woman **11.00** Timeshift: Of Ice and Men

ITV2
4.10 The Xtra Factor: Louis' Best and Worst **5.10** The Xtra Factor: Caroline and Olly's Best and Worst **6.10** The Xtra Factor Rewind **7.10 Film:** Twins (1988) **9.15** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **9.30** The Xtra Factor **10.30 Film:** Passenger 57 (1992)

ITV3
4.40 Agatha Christie's Poirot **7.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **9.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **11.00** A Touch of Frost

ITV4
3.55 The Professionals **5.00 Film:** The Far Country (1954) **7.00** Minder. Arthur and Ray live the high life. **8.00** Cycling **9.00 Film:** Rocky III (1982) **11.05 Film:** The Fog (1980)

E4
3.20 Desperate Housewives **4.20** Revenge **5.15** How I Met Your Mother **6.15** The Big Bang Theory **7.45** Rules of Engagement **8.45** Suburgatory **9.15 Film:** Die Hard 2 (1990) **11.40** The Big Bang Theory

Film4
3.10 The Rocker (2008) **5.10** That Thing You Do! (1996) **7.20** Zoolander (2001) **9.00** The Lovely Bones (2009) Peter Jackson's fantasy drama, with Saoirse Ronan. **11.35** Hansel and Gretel (2007)

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 19.08.12

CHOICE



Rupert Penry-Jones

The Last Weekend
ITV1, 9pm
Shaun Evans and Rupert Penry-Jones have been spending a lot of time together recently, having both cropped up in Silks and Whitechapel and now in this new drama series, based on the novel by Blake Morrison. However, hopefully that's where the resemblance to their characters ends ... The Last Weekend follows Ian Goade (Evans) and Ollie Moreton (Penry-Jones), who, along with their respective wives plan to spend the August bank holiday weekend together in a ramshackle country cottage. But what should be a relaxing few days takes a darker turn.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.40** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** BBC News. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Country Tracks; (R) Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.00** BBC News. **12.10** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **1.10** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.10** Cash in the Attic. (R) **2.40** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.40** Ocean Giants. (R) **4.40** Songs of Praise. **5.15** The Indian Doctor. (R)

6.00 The One Show: Best of Britain. (R)

6.30 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Britain's Hidden Heritage. New series. Richard E Grant visits Pinewood Studios and sheds new light on British cinema, while Paul Martin takes in Queen Victoria's home, Osborne House on the Isle of Wight.

8.00 Countryfile. On a visit to Grizedale Forest in the Lake District, Julia Bradbury discovers why the area is a haven for mountain bikers and John Craven witnesses the end of a red kite project. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

9.00 Silent Witness. Part one of two. Nikki stumbles upon a sinister world of sex grooming and teenage prostitution.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day 2. Including Manchester City v Southampton.

11.25 In with the Flynns. (R)

11.55 Film: Deceived. (1991) Psychological thriller, starring Goldie Hawn.

1.40 Weatherview. **1.45** Sign Zone: Olympics 2012 Opening Ceremony. Highlights of the show produced by Danny Boyle. (R) **4.30** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** The Great British Bake Off. (R) **12.30 Film:** Carve Her Name with Pride. (1958) Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Virginia McKenna. **2.25 Film:** The Way to the Stars. (1945) A naive young pilot is assigned to a British bomber base during the opening skirmishes of the Battle of Britain. Second World War drama, starring John Mills and Michael Redgrave. **4.15** Flog It! (R) **4.45** Antiques Road Trip. (R) **5.30** Oceans. (R)

6.30 MotoGP. The Indianapolis Grand Prix (Start-time 7.00pm). Matt Roberts presents live coverage of the 11th round of the season at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

8.00 Exploring China: A Culinary Adventure. Ken Hom and Ching-He Huang explore the country's western frontier, an area where travellers rarely venture, and learn about the cultures and cuisines of China's ethnic minorities.

9.00 Toughest Place to Be a Miner. New series. Craig Notman, who works in mine rescue in Staffordshire, travels to Mongolia to learn about the risks that gold miners take every day in an attempt to make a living.

10.00 Page Eight. David Hare's spy drama about an MI5 officer's attempts to investigate a threat to the stability of Britain's security services. Starring Bill Nighy, Rachel Weisz and Ralph Fiennes. (R)

11.40 MotoGP. The Indianapolis Grand Prix. Another chance to see the 11th round of the season at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. (R)

1.10 BBC News. **3.45** Close.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **7.20** CITV. **8.25** Dinner Date. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** House Gift. (R) **10.25** There's No Taste Like Home. (R) **11.30** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **12.30** ITV News; Weather. **12.45** You've Been Framed! (R) **1.15** The X Factor. (R) **2.30 Film:** Columbo: Grand Deceptions. (1989) **4.25** Doc Martin. (R) **5.30** The Talent Show Story. (R)

6.30 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.45 ITV News; Weather.

7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. New series. Bradley Walsh presents as former MP Edwina Currie, Countdown's Rachel Riley, Boyzone's Keith Duffy and Emmerdale star Mark Charnock pit their wits against the Chaser.

8.00 The Cube. Olympic gold medallists Denise Lewis and Sally Gunnell each compete in up to seven challenges, hoping to win cash for charity. (R)

9.00 The Last Weekend. New series. Two couples take a short holiday together, but the men's competitive streak leads to terrible consequences. Suspense thriller, with Rupert Penry-Jones and Shaun Evans.

10.05 ITV News; Weather.

10.20 Film: GoldenEye. (1995) James Bond goes in pursuit of a satellite weapon that has fallen into the hands of a mysterious criminal mastermind. Spy adventure, with Pierce Brosnan.

12.40 The Store; ITV News Headlines. **2.40** Golden Balls. (R) **3.30** Motorsport UK. **4.20** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Treacle People. (R) **6.20** The Hoobs. (R) **6.45** Ironman 2012. **7.10** Channel 4 Presents: London 2012 – David Smith Part III. (R) **7.15** Road to London 2012: Paralympics Extra. A preview of the wheelchair basketball and rugby events. **7.40** Surfing Special: The Endless Winter. **8.10** Will & Grace. (R) **8.35** Will & Grace. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Sunday Brunch. **12.50** Jamie Does the French Pyrenees. (R) **1.50** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.20** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.50** The Simpsons. (R) **3.20** The Simpsons. (R) **3.50** V Festival 2012: Live. **4.50** Deal or No Deal. **5.50** Escape from Colditz. (R)

7.25 Channel 4 News.

7.55 4thought.tv. A priest's views on animals and the afterlife.

8.00 Come Dine with Me. Four dinner-party hosts compete in north Cornwall.

9.00 Lee Evans: Roadrunner. A performance recorded at London's O2 during the madcap comedian's 2011 tour, which saw him play at some of the biggest arenas in the UK and Ireland.

10.10 I'm Spazticus. New series. Disabled performers play pranks on the public.

10.40 The Function Room. Comedy, starring Kevin Eldon.

11.15 Harry Hill. An episode of the oddball sketch show. (R)

11.45 Music on 4: V Festival 2012: Sunday Highlights. Sets by Nicki Minaj, Tinie Tempah, Tom Jones, Snow Patrol and the Killers.

1.15 The Law of the Playground. (R) **1.45** The 11 O'Clock Show. (R) **2.25** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.30** Countdown. (R) **5.15** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** City of Friends. (R) **6.40** Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) **6.50** Castle Farm. (R) **6.55** Abby's Flying Fairy School. (R) **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **7.25** Play! (R) **7.35** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.45** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.40** Rupert Bear. (R) **8.55** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **9.10** The Mr Men Show. (R) **9.25** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** Jelly Jamm. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers Samurai. **10.35** Batman: The Brave and the Bold. **11.06** Looney Tunes. (R) **11.10** Celebrity Big Brother. (R) **12.10** World's Scariest Plane Landings. (R) **12.55 Film:** The Goonies. (1985) **3.05 Film:** The Karate Kid Part III. (1989) **5.15 Film:** Robin Hood. (1973) Disney animation, with the voices of Terry-Thomas and Peter Ustinov.

7.00 Cricket on 5. England v South Africa.

7.55 5 News Weekend.

8.00 Once Upon a Time. Regina struggles to maintain her influence over Storybrooke.

9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. The ups and downs of BB life.

10.00 Mutt Ugly: World's Ugliest Dog. A competition in California to find the world's most hideous hound.

10.55 Film: Bring It On. (2000) Cheerleading comedy, starring Kirsten Dunst.

12.50 SuperCasino. **3.55** Sons of Anarchy. **4.45** Rough Guide to Short Breaks. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes 2011: Not in 3D **7.10 Film:** Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981) Action adventure, starring Harrison Ford. **9.00** The Batman Shootings **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Bad Education **11.15** American Dad!

BBC Four
7.00 Himalaya with Michael Palin **8.00** Timewatch: The Last Day of World War One **9.00 Film:** Wilde (1996) **10.50** Omnibus: Gore Vidal's Gore Vidal **11.40** Wilderness Explored

ITV2
3.00 Film: A Cinderella Story (2004) **5.00 Film:** Garfield: A Tale of Two Kitties (2006) **6.45** The X Factor **8.00** The Xtra Factor **9.00** Benidorm **10.00** The Only Way Is Essex **10.45** Lemon La Vida Loca **11.35 Film:** Something's Gotta Give (2003)

ITV3
3.55 Film: Forever Young (1992) **6.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **8.00** The Story of the Costume Drama **9.00 Film:** The Portrait of a Lady (1996) **11.55** Cracker

ITV4
2.05 Film: MacArthur (1977) **4.45 Film:** Shalako (1968) **7.00** Cycling **8.00** Minder **9.00 Film:** Jaws: The Revenge (1987) **10.50 Film:** Wild at Heart (1990)

E4
3.15 Charlie's Angels **4.10** New Girl **4.40** Suburgatory **5.05** Revenge **6.05** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** Cheaper By the Dozen 2 (2005) **10.00** Rude Tube: Rude Zoo **11.00** 2 Broke Girls **11.30** New Girl

Film4
2.55 Addams Family Values (1993) **4.40** The Thirty-Nine Steps (1978) **6.40** Sahara (2005) **9.00** Along Came a Spider (2001) **11.05** Sorority Row (2009)

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What's On!

Film Choices

MONDAY
Extreme Measures, BBC1, 11.45pm
A promising young doctor is shocked to learn a respected neurologist may be carrying out illegal experiments on homeless patients in a risky attempt to find a cure for paralysis. However, when he decides to take action, he underestimates the danger he is putting himself in. Thriller, starring Hugh Grant, Gene Hackman, Sarah Jessica Parker, David Morse and Bill Nunn. (1996)

TUESDAY
Lord of War, BBC1, 11.35pm
A Ukrainian immigrant in New York sells guns to local mobsters, and when he gains access to a vast supply of Soviet weaponry at the end of the Cold War he expands his operation overseas - but makes the mistake of doing business with an African warlord. Thriller, starring Nicolas Cage, Ethan Hawke, Jared Leto, Bridget Moynahan, Eamonn Walker and Ian Holm. (2005)



Syriana, Wednesday, ITV1, 10.35pm

WEDNESDAY
Syriana, ITV1, 10.35pm
A web of interweaving stories reveals a deep seam of corruption within the global oil industry, including a CIA agent drawn into arms dealing and assassinations, an energy analyst determined to meet his company's agenda at all costs, and an unemployed oil worker driven into political extremism. Drama, starring an Oscar-winning George Clooney, with Matt Damon, Christopher Plummer, Chris Cooper, Jeffrey Wright, William Hurt and Tim Blake Nelson. (2005)

THURSDAY
New Town Killers, BBC1, 11.20pm
A teenager from inner-city Edinburgh agrees to act as prey in a deadly game of cat and mouse played by a wealthy banker and his latest recruit. However, the hunters always seem to be one step ahead and the youngster realises his chances of survival are slim. Thriller, starring Dougray Scott, James Anthony Pearson, Alastair Mackenzie, Liz White and Charles Mnene. (2008)

FRIDAY
We Own the Night, ITV1, 10.35pm
The manager of a New York nightclub is caught between two worlds - while his brother and father are both highly respected police officers, most of his clientele are gangsters. Despite his best efforts not to get involved, he is forced to choose sides when gang violence escalates and his brother is targeted by a hitman. Crime drama, starring Joaquin Phoenix, Mark Wahlberg and Robert Duvall. (2007)

Pick of the Week

Make a note to tune in as it's time to face the music

It's the summer of 2004, and an excited Louis Walsh has phoned to plug new show The X Factor. He's keen to emphasise the fact contestants can't just expect overnight fame. They have to work for it.

"Music has to be from the soul, it has to be about learning your craft," he enthuses. "I don't want these people to think they can just walk into a television show and become a star. It doesn't happen like that. You have to be good."

At the time the show was launched with so much hype it felt like it had been around for years anyway, but Simon Cowell's answer to Pop Idol could have come and gone as fast as that short-lived show.

Fast forward to 2012 and you could say that after nine series, and world-beating acts like Leona Lewis, Olly Murs, One Direction and, er, Jedward, **The X Factor (Saturday, ITV1, 8pm)** is still going strong.

This week it returns for a new run, so viewers in the London area can expect a slight drain on their resources as it looks like half the capital's energy supply goes into powering TXF's studio.

After last year's series in which Gary Barlow took over as head judge (while Cowell was working on The X Factor US), things seem to be back to normal for the latest run.

Tulisa and Louis are back for more, while Nicole Scherzinger joins the team.

Rest assured they will be pulling out all the stops in their search for the nation's next singing sensation, though there's a slight change to the 2012 contest: everyone aged 16 and above can enter, even if they have had a previous management deal or currently have one.

As the auditions open in London and Newcastle, solo singers and groups will take to the stage in a bid to impress the panel.

The perpetually diplomatic Dermot O' Leary is on hand to celebrate with those talented hopefuls who progress through to the next round, and commiserate with the tone-deaf auditionees who are not so fortunate.

One woman who knows all about learning their craft is soul singer Beverly Knight.

So, does Wolverhampton's acclaimed soul singer have any advice for this year's X Factor contestants hoping to hit the big time?

"You can't just rely on fame to take you there," she explains, echoing Louis' comments. "The discerning musical crowd: they don't care whether you're famous or not. They want to know if you can entertain a crowd, and if you can't, they're off. Fame will hold you for a bit, but it will not sustain you."

So, how will this year's winners keep punters hooked when the series is over?

"The way you build and keep a fanbase is the old school way of getting out there, getting on stage, playing to 10 men a couple of dogs and a cat and learning your craft; learning how to work a stage; learning how to win over an audience."

That's possibly why Bev is still doing well after more than a decade in the industry and some previous X Factor winners need to be Googled instead of searched for on iPod track listings.



The judges return for a new series of The X Factor, Saturday, ITV1, 8pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY
Lorraine's Fast, Fresh and Easy Food
BBC2, 8.30pm
Let's make no bones about it; Lorraine Pascale isn't your typical chef. She doesn't sport a sweat-drenched brow, she isn't turning the air blue with frustrated foul language, and there's barely a hair out of place, as she effortlessly glides around her kitchen. Yes, our Lorraine definitely graduates from the Nigella seductive school of culinary genius – mind you, you wouldn't expect anything less from a former model. Is there anything this woman can't turn her hand to? Tonight she turns her attention to dishes that keep cravings at bay and lighten the mood; including a breakfast of ginger bread pancakes with parma ham and maple syrup, and a warming prawn linguine with chorizo and cabernet tomato sauce – to name but a few.

TUESDAY
Accused
BBC1, 9pm
Acclaimed writer Jimmy McGovern joins forces with Carol Cullington to script this powerful slice of drama boasting an excellent cast. The plot centres on Mo Murray, a hairdresser who refuses to be intimidated by a local gang. Ignoring the advice of her own family, and supported by her best friend Sue, she disregards the gang-leader's instruction to close her salon on the day of a member's funeral. When a youngster is shot and killed, retribution follows and matters escalate until members of the Murray family find themselves in the dock. There are top turns from all, especially Anne-Marie Duff, Ruth Sheen and Olivia Colman.

Person of Interest
Channel 5, 9pm
When it was announced that Hollywood big-hitters JJ Abrams (co-creator of Lost) and Jonathan Nolan (co-writer of The Dark Knight) were teaming up for a new sci-fi-esque serial drama, movie buffs could barely contain their excitement – and after last week's pilot episode, they have yet to be disappointed. This week, Reese (Jim Caviezel) and Finch (Michael Emerson) get on the case of an unsolved murder after receiving the social security number of a girl named Teresa, who has been presumed dead since her father murdered his family and committed suicide. Finch insists the machine isn't wrong in its predictions, and Reese is left with what seems like an impossible task.

WEDNESDAY
Emmerdale
ITV1, 7pm
Now, we're not saying the Emmerdale music festival is guaranteed to end in disaster but perhaps when Declan is considering who to put in charge, he should look a little further than the members of his own household. Megan is certainly unimpressed when she discovers that Katie will be accompanying her to a business meeting in his absence. She moans about the situation to Robbie, who decides to do something about it by letting Katie's horses out of the field so she has to round them up and miss the appointment.



Person of Interest, Tuesday, Channel 5, 9pm

Who Do You Think You Are?
BBC1, 9pm
Gregg Wallace is the latest celebrity to have his ancestry scrutinised by this series. Among the highlights to look out for is Wallace's attempts to solve a long-standing family mystery, although the truth about what happened to his great-great grandfather is perhaps even more intriguing – he disappeared after abandoning his wife and children and deserting the navy. However, easily the best moment comes when Wallace is handed a formal portrait of his great-great grandmother.

THURSDAY
The Oklahoma City Bomber Tapes
Channel 5, 8pm
In the years before the September 11th terrorist attacks, America remained in a state of shock following on from the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Downtown Oklahoma City in 1995. The bombing claimed the lives of 168 people and injured hundreds more, making it the deadliest terror attack on US turf prior to the 2001 attacks. Martin Bashir crops up once more in this rather revealing documentary which draws from over 45 hours of the Buffalo News' tapes of interviews with bomber Timothy McVeigh during his time in prison.

FRIDAY
Parade's End
BBC2, 9pm
Anyone who thought the BBC would struggle to top The Hollow Crown in the star-studded, classy adaptation stakes may have to think again – new drama series Parade's End practically groans with class. It's been adapted from Ford Maddox Ford's quartet of novels by none other than the acclaimed playwright and screenwriter Sir Tom Stoppard. If that wasn't enough of a coup for the Beeb, just take a look at the cast list. It follows the aristocratic Christopher (Benedict Cumberbatch), who marries the wilful socialite Sylvia (Rebecca Hall). Despite their differences and the turbulent nature of their relationship, he's determined to be a good husband – but then he meets the suffragette Valentine (Adelaide Clemens).

In with the Flynns
BBC1, 9pm
We're very glad this show's back for a second run, and while no one wants to see it go on past its welcome like star Will Mellor's previous vehicle, Two Pints of Lager and a Packet of Crisps, it looks like there's no danger of that happening any time soon - especially if last week's series opener is anything to go by. Tonight, Liam and Caroline decide to throw an anniversary party for Caroline's parents, but poor Liam's patience is tested when Pat upsets Chloe with a few home truths about her conception. In an attempt to smooth things over, mum and dad tell Chloe the story of how they got together all those years ago.

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Brain Gym No.182

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

	19		14 M		16			19		22		
6	24	14	11 A		11	2	5	2	15	13		11
	18		1	13	16			23		13	11	18
	18		13		10	22	21	13		3		13
9	24	11	23	5		11						26
	23			2	14	6	11	4	4	2	25	10
	11			3		4		13			10	
10	3	10	22	18	23	2	7	8			12	
12						17		11	4	4	11	8
2		8		23	10	10	5		10		18	
4	6	11		2			26	13	15		2	
18		23	10	4	2	17	10		11	25	13	20
		26		5			20		26		26	

1	14 M
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10	23
11 A	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
G	S	X	B	E	Y	L	N	Q	Z	U	K	T
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
H	J	D	O	V	F	P	A	C	M	R	W	I

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Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. A young animal gets a developing insect (4)
3. Striking taste with mixed gin (8)
9. The sort of officer who joins up? (7)
10. A pie's turned brown! (5)
11. Describing one with the understanding of the Devil? (6-6)
13. Broken tea-set - is that all a man leaves? (6)
15. Assumed by one who wishes to be in good physical shape (6)
17. Not a monk who practises at the bar! (7-2-3)
20. A plot to destroy a famous Greek (5)
21. and ruin the arts (7)
22. Threatening evil on the left (8)
23. The four corners of the earth will provide information (4)

Down

1. Recommended methods of administration provided by insurance companies (8)
2. In Barcelona I played the instrument backwards! (5)
4. Times when nocturnal insects may be seen round the north (6)
5. The moon's optical illusion is world-wide! (12)
6. I say I am a journalist to create an affect (7)
7. May get engaged in the automobile (4)
8. Descriptive of one who makes a show? (12)
12. They wait at sea (8)
14. Region with particular characteristics in the winter rainfall (7)
16. Tenant has to look after Leslie (6)
18. The turning-point for many engineering enterprises (5)
19. Not down like a tree (4)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Replete (4)
3. Hose (8)
9. Last longer than (7)
10. New and strange (5)
11. Defeat (12)
13. Set as a task (6)
15. Most certain (6)
17. Disgraceful (12)
20. Smallest (5)
21. Fragrant (7)
22. Cajoles (8)
23. Cast off (4)

Down

1. Strongly illuminated (8)
2. Type of water-lily (5)
4. Frugality (6)
5. Building (12)
6. Upside down (7)
7. Dupe (4)
8. Shown (12)
12. Bearing accent (8)
14. Confidential (7)
16. Resist (6)
18. Polling-place (5)
19. Knock (4)

1		2		■	3	4		5		6		7
	■		■	8	■		■		■		■	
9							■	10				
	■		■		■		■		■		■	12
11												
	■	■	■		■		■		■		■	
13		14				■	15					
	■		■		■	16	■		■	■	■	
■	17									18		
19	■		■		■		■		■		■	
20						21						
	■		■		■		■		■		■	
22								■	23			

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Puts all; 7 Scrap; 9 Scrip; 10 Calling; 12 In one basket; 14 Submariners; 18 Panache; 19 Acute; 21 Alter; 22 His eggs. Down: 1 Quick; 2 Assign; 3 Old; 4 Scales; 5 Painter; 8 Carbine; 11 Anarchy; 13 Curable; 15 Moaned; 16 Racket; 17 Stage; 20 Hit. QUICK - Across: 6 Stretch; 7 Snack; 9 Utter; 10 Matures; 12 Stockholder; 14 Made to order; 18 Callous; 19 Askew; 21 Joust; 22 Forgive. Down: 1 State; 2 Desert; 3 Icy; 4 Annual; 5 Schemer; 8 Gathers; 11 Octopus; 13 Matador; 15 Enlist; 16 Ensign; 17 Leave; 20 Rod.

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

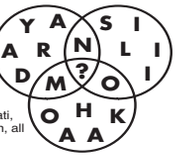
	8	4		6	3		9	1
		1	8					
	7					4		6
7		9	1	2			6	
					8			
	5			7	6	9		2
9		3					7	
	1				7	6		
			9	8		1	4	

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

1	9	8	2	6	4	3	7	5
2	5	3	1	9	7	8	6	4
7	4	6	8	5	3	1	2	9
9	1	5	7	4	2	6	8	3
6	8	7	3	1	9	5	4	2
4	3	2	6	8	5	7	9	1
3	6	9	4	7	1	2	5	8
5	7	1	9	2	8	4	3	6
8	2	4	5	3	6	9	1	7

Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: The letter represented by the question mark is A. Gujarati, Punjabi, Mandarin, all languages.

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MOTORING NEWS AND REVIEWS

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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

Zafira Tourer tows the line for quality



The Tourer was named best MPV at Practical Caravan's Towcar Awards

FIRST things first – I don't need a seven seater car and I don't need to be able to tow a decent weight . . . but if I did the Vauxhall Zafira Tourer would be up there among contenders.

By Sharon Walters

This third-generation of the model hit our roads earlier this year and has continued its earlier success and built on it. Unlike some MPVs, it is full-size with plenty of space for seven, and also unlike other MPVs, it can actually tow a decent weight. In fact it was named this year's Best MPV at Practical Caravan magazines's Towcar Awards 2012.

The Practical Caravan awards, backed by What Car? magazine and The Camping and Caravanning Club, are based on a vigorous and thorough towcar assessment. Each car is tested by a panel of eight judges for its towing ability, buying and owning costs, drive quality when not towing and practicality.

"The Zafira Tourer really comes into its own when towing," said awards judge Nigel Donnelly, Haymarket Outdoor Leisure Group's editor-in-chief – digital. "At the legal limit and beyond the Zafira Tourer is a relaxing car to tow with. With plenty of power and torque, the 2.0-litre engine pulled car and caravan from 30-60mph in 14.1 seconds. Braking showed the shortest stopping distance in this class. The Zafira Tourer offers strong performance, good stability and space for seven."

"We're delighted Zafira Tourer has won the Best MPV title at the Towcar Awards 2012," said Peter Hope, Vauxhall's marketing director. "The Towcar of the Year awards are an industry standard and by far the most prestigious event in the caravanning calendar."

And while I didn't test its towing capabilities the 2.0 litre version I drove certainly felt it had the capability to hitch up the 'van' for a summer holiday and leave you feeling pretty safe behind the wheel with the kids piled in the back.

Flexibility

But I did test some of Vauxhall's flexibility claims by trying out a number of the options Flex7 seating system. There are several including 'Lounge Seating' on key models. When you want seven up the two seats at the very back come up out of the floor and the middle bench seat is now a set of three separate seats which are also each capable of folding and splitting into any number of combinations. In addition the two outside seats slide backwards and inwards against the middle seat which folds to form two arm rests and gives plenty of space.Only downside to seven up is the reduced boot space. But if you want to turn it into a load lugger put all the seats down to reveal 1,860 litres of space – more than enough for a trip to collect flat-pack from Ikea or clear the shed out and head for the tip.

Staying on the inside materials are of a much better quality than the old model and the design means everyone gets a good view of outside from the light and airy cabin. This is made even better if you opt for a panoramic sunroof and the high-top windscreen

There's a choice of two petrol engines and three diesel. My car was the ecoflex with start/stop technology and I really could appreciate the difference in fuel consumption when chugging around town doing odd jobs and stopping off for shopping. Sitting at traffic lights just when they change at one of my regular routes can take some minutes and when the engine switches off it can make all the difference on your monthly fuel bill.

Drivewise it was comfortable and coped well with the potholes on the B roads on my way into work and it smoothly made its way along the M54.

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12/2012	C3	1.4 DIESEL VTR+	WHITE	£10485	£14,590	£4,105
12/2012	C3	1.4 DIESEL VTR+	CHOICE OF METALIC	£10685	£15,040	£4,355
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12/2012	C1	1.0 VTR 5 DOOR	BLACK	£7985	£10,465	£2,480
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12/2012	DS3	1.6 DSTYLE +	RED/BLACK	£14485	£16,050	£4,609
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I10 1.2 ACTIVE	12/2012	£6985	£8,945.00	£1,960.00
I20 1.2 CLASSIC 5DR	12/2012	£7985	£10,820.00	£2,835.00
I20* 1.2 ACTIVE 5DR	12/2012	£9985	£12,020.00	£2,035.00
I20* 1.2 CLASSIC 5DR	12/2012	£8985	£11,020.00	£2,035.00
I30* 1.6 CRDI 110 B/D CLASSIC	12/2012	£12985	£16,895.00	£3,910.00
I30* 1.6 CRDI 110 B/D ACTIVE	12/2012	SOLD	£18,440.00	£3,455.00
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I40 1.6 GDI ACTIVE TOUR	12/2012	SOLD	£19,094.00	£4,609.00
I40 1.7 D PREMIUM SAL AUTO	12/2012	£20985	£25,345.00	£4,360.00
I40 1.7 CRDI STYLE BLUE DRIVE TOUR	12/2012	SOLD	£22,990.00	£4,505.00
I40 1.7 CRDI PREMIUM TOUR AUTO	12/2012	£21985	£28,395.00	£6,410.00
IX35 1.7 D 2WD PREMIUM	12/2012	£17685	£20,945.00	£3,260.00
IX35 2.0 D 4WD PREMIUM	12/2012	£19685	£23,600.00	£3,915.00
IX35 2.0 D 4WD PREMIUM AUTO	12/2012	£20985	£26,260.00	£5,275.00
SANTA FE 2.2 PREM 7STR	12/2012	SOLD	£28,955.00	£5,970.00
SANTA FE 2.2 STYLE 7STR	12/2012	SOLD	£26,955.00	£6,970.00
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The larger Aveo 1.2 LS comes with air conditioning, front, side and curtain airbags and brake and hill start-assist systems all as standard for £9,895, £139 a month with 0 per cent APR. The Cruze 1.6 LS Hatchback has space for five adults and more than 400 litres of boot space and is on offer at only £12,495, £1,780 off the list price. It's equipped with air conditioning, an MP3 auxiliary input jack, traction control, ESC and front, side and roof curtain airbags. The Chevrolet Orlando has seven seats and generous storage, and the 1.8 LS is now available for £15,595. A saving of £1,230 over the list price and at 0 per cent APR costs from £199 per month.

Finally, the seven-seat Captiva 2.2 LT MPV has follow-me-home headlights, rain sensitive windscreen wipers, cruise control, a USB port and rear parking sensors all for £24,995 – £349 per month with 0 per cent APR.

All offers are accompanied by Chevrolet's five years or 100,000 mile comprehensive warranty (excludes Volt/Camaro/Corvette), whichever comes first (with a few exclusions), six-year anti-perforation corrosion warranty with no mileage restriction and one year's roadside assistance (provided by the AA), all at no extra cost.

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2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.

3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.

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property

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BMW 320 Ci SPORT 2.2CC

Petrol, 2002, 70k miles, silver blue, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, alarm, long MoT, metallic paint, central locking, cruise control, pas, sunroof, alloys, stereo, CD, spots, leather interior, low suspension and low profile tyres.

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01902 676158.

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Stunning Graphite metallic / black leather walnut.
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MITSUBISHI 2.5 SHOGUN 2001, 89,000 miles, long MoT, tax Nov. Good condition. £2,000. 01902 676594.

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★ **TOYOTA AVENSIS** 1.8GS, 2002, 5 door, fitted alarm, Sat Nav, tax, MoT, 75,000 miles, £1,800 ono. 07733 028923.

TOYOTA AYGO PLATINUM 1.0, 3 door, 59 reg, 1 lady owner, fsh, 32,000 miles, £5,600 ono. Telephone 07702 792070.

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55 plate.
Metallic blue.
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£2,995 o.n.o.
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FOR A QUICK SALE



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07931 473434

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Boss Burr fumes at first-half showing

Lincoln City 1
Kidderminster Harriers 0

HARRIERS manager Steve Burr was left fuming as his side's poor first-half performance proved costly.

Lincoln's Jamie Taylor netted the only goal ater 39 minutes to give the home side the three points in the Blue Square Bet Premier.

Burr said afterwards: "We didn't get at them down the sides and we played too many long balls up to Ryan Rowe which is not what we were working on this week.

"Subsequently the goal they scored came from a mistake and that was disappointing."

Burr at least took some satisfaction from the Harriers' second-half showing.

"On another day our second-half performance may have been enough to have taken a point," he said.

"We hit the post twice and the players who came on made a difference."

Harriers struggled to get into any rhythm during the opening exchanges.

Effort

Danny Lewis, returning as keeper for the first time since damaging his cruciate ligaments last September, was called into action after 17 minutes, saving a Gary Mills effort that was partially blocked by Exodus Geoghagon.

Andy Boyce and Rob Duffy spurned chances to put the home side ahead before Harriers had their first effort on target on 36 minutes, a long-ranger from Keith Briggs that keeper Paul Farman held.

The deadlock was broken just three minutes later as Taylor nipped in to lift the ball into an unguarded Kidderminster net.

Harriers replaced Mickey Demetriou at half-time with Jack Byrne and his presence allowed the visitors to play their natural passing game.

Ryan Austin forced Farman into a fine low save from a free-kick and substitute Johnson saw an effort rebound from the upright.

It was not be Harriers' day when Anthony Malbon, on as a substitute despite suffering from illness, scooped the ball over from 18 yards in the sixth minute of added time.

Lincoln: Farman, Gray, Boyce, Miller, Nutter, Daley (Oliver 63), Power, Mills, Smith (Sheridan 64), Taylor, Duffy (Nicolau 89). **Subs not used:** Hutchison, Turner (gk).

Harriers: Lewis, Austin, Demetriou (Byrne 46), Williams, Geoghagon, Vincent, Briggs, Gittings (Johnson), Shakes (Malbon 71), Rowe, Pilkington. **Subs not used:** Storer, N Vaughan (gk).

Lewis leads the way with knock of 138

Bewdley (15pts) 282-9, Burghill & Tillington (10pts) 228-7. Draw

BEWDLEY came away from league leaders Burghill with a winning draw, thanks mainly to an astonishing innings of 138 from Gareth Lewis, ***writes David Mills.***

Electing to bat, Bewdley found themselves in trouble despite a bright opening partnership of 53 between Matt Cowdery and Paul Beard. A middle order collapse ensued, and at 88-6 Jack Mills joined Lewis.

Together they added 160 in just 24 overs, of which Mills contributed 21. At the other end Lewis utterly dominated, hitting 22 fours and four sixes. Rarely can a game have been transformed so completely and so rapidly.

Lewis's heroics meant that Bewdley ran up a formidable total, but on a smallish ground it did not quite guarantee safety.

However, Bewdley bowled steadily, led by Mills (3-66) and David Jones (1-63) both of whom bowled 17 overs. At no stage did Burghill threaten to win, though opener Hedges carried his bat for 110 not out. Bewdley picked up a satisfactory 15 points.

Bewdley Cricket Club

Astwood Bank (7pts) 270-3, Bewdley (24pts) 271-7. Bewdley won by three wickets

Bewdley and Astwood Bank slugged out a thrilling encounter at Lower Park on Saturday, with Bewdley eventually prevailing with just one ball left.

It was a long afternoon in the field for Bewdley after Astwood Bank won the toss and decided to bat.

An opening partnership of 181 between Chris Hancox (103) and Paul Boycott (99) threatend to end the contest there and then.

But the last 10 overs perhaps did not produce the onslaught would have wished for and Bewdley were relatively content at having restricted the visitors to 270-3.

Bewdley's response got off to a positive start with Ben Jones Snr (30) and Nick Wilkinson (45) looking in fluent form until both were dismissed in quick succession. At 116-4, Bewdley's hopes looked slim at best.

But a crucial partnership between Johnny Elmer (38) and Stephen Molyneux (77) got them back in the game. However, with 85 needed off the last 10 overs, Astwood Bank looked favourites for the winning draw at the very least.

Molyneux was dismissed in the 48th over but Grant Morris (24 not out) assumed the mantle of aggressor and took Bewdley to the brink with only three runs needed off the last over.

There was still time for the odd anxious moment before Rob Crane and Morris scampered a leg bye off the fifth ball to seal a memorable three-wicket win and maximum points.

Match tied as last-ball bowler holds his nerve

Kidderminster Victoria (10pts) 219-9, Himley (12pts) 219-6. Draw

VERY few league matches finish on the final ball, but this was a real thriller. Requiring one run to win the match, Himley's Stuart Wedge could not make contact and the match was tied, *writes Brian Gittins.*

KVCC were asked to bat when Himley won the toss. With only seven runs on the board KVCC lost their first wicket when Danny Smith bowled Andy Kimberlin for one.

We then witnessed a super partnership of 133 between the two county players, Matt Pardoe and Neil Pinner. This came in the space of 28 overs with both batsmen in great form.

Pardoe looked set for a century, but on 67 he was bowled by Ahmed Hussain. His total included ten fours from 101 balls.

Kidderminster Victoria CC

Regrettably, the rest of the Kidderminster batting failed to support Pinner in this Birmingham League Premier clash.

Apart from Richard Kimberlin, who scored 13, no other batsman got into double figures. The next biggest score came from 20 extras.

There had been a possibility of a very big score, but Pinner had to restrain himself to make sure there was not a premature end to the innings, thus giving any unused overs to Himley.

Poor

Pinner had batted as well as he has all season, but with his century in sight, he was caught by Nathan Round off Nick Harrison's bowling in the 52nd over.

His 98 runs came off 142 balls in 192 minutes, including nine fours.

The rest of the batsmen had poor games – Ben Cox (3), Zac Turley (5), Connor Smith (0), Jonathan Wright (1), and Henry Wright (4). The not out batters were Ryan Derrick (6) and John Rowan (1). Nick Harrison bowled well, taking 3-21 from his 10 overs, including three maidens. Ravi Bhattia took 3-41, Hussain 2-57 and Smith 1-26.

KVCC got off to a reasonable start when Round was caught by Wright, bowled Kimberlin for 11.

As with the Kidderminster innings, there came a good partnership of 83 for the second wicket.

It ended when Greg Wright was run out by a good piece of fielding by Pardoe. Wright had struck 10 fours in his score of 67.

Wright was out in the 26th over, and Himley came under pressure, only scoring only 37 runs in their next 13, losing three wickets in the process.

Bhattia, a man who played for the winning team in the IPL, was caught in the slips by Connor Smith, bowled Wright for 17.

Michael Jones had scored 34 when he was out to a good catch by Turley off the bowling of Pinner. With the score on 142, Pinner took another wicket, Waqas Ahmed (4), with yet another fine catch by Turley.

Himley recovered and took their score up to 206 by the 53rd over, but lost the wicket of Tom Kohler-Cadmore. He had scored 38, including five fours, when he bowled by Pardoe.

The experienced pair Wedge and keeper Jag Dhillon had to bat out time for either a win or a losing draw.

With Wedge on 27 and Dhillon on seven, Pardoe bowled the final over.

He conceded three runs off his first five balls, leaving Wedge to score a single off the last ball.

But Wedge failed to score the run. It was a dramatic end to a well-fought encounter.

Neil Pinner took 2-50 from his 17 overs, with Pardoe taking 1-18, Wright 1-45 and Kimberlin 1-43.

KVCC travel to Knowle & Dorridge on Saturday (noon).

Juggling catch dashes Ryno dream



Ryno Alberts took 9-17 off 13 overs – and nearly bagged all 10 wickets

BEACON'S Ryno Alberts was left both elated and frustrated after going agonisingly close to bagging the bowler's Holy Grail – 10 wickets in an innings.

The South African all-rounder tore through the Wightwick & Finchfield line-up to claim the first nine wickets in the Staffordshire Clubs Division One game and was dreaming of a full house. But his hopes were dashed when W&F's Suhkraj Hothi skied a slog off spinner Ben Robinson and was caught – at the third, juggling attempt – by Alex French.

Alberts finished with 9-17 from 13 overs. W&F were rolled over for just 66 in reply to Beacon's 237-8.

Two-down Bewdley fight back for a draw

Brocton 2 Bewdley Town 2

BATTLING Bewdley fought back from two down to draw in this FA Cup extra preliminary round tie.

Brocton were the first to show, winning an early corner and when Bewdley came forward Rob Orme took a knock and was replaced by Sam Watkins after just five minutes.

Neither keeper was seriously troubled in the opening quarter-hour but then the Badgers started to create chances as first Tom Doody headed wide and then Gary Fife shot over the bar.

Fife was involved again, receiving a free-kick which he turned and struck wide.

On 40 minutes, Dave Harvey set off on a run that left defenders trailing in his wake and put in a shot that Bewdley keeper Darren Steadman did well to turn away for a corner.

The resulting flag-kick saw Brocton take the lead when Mick Fox's initial effort was scrambled off the line but Matt Skinner forced the ball in from close range.

Sam Hollingsworth then replaced the injured Harvey and it was not long before the Badgers doubled their advantage.

Back-pass

Jordan Bloor chased down a poor back-pass and won the ball in a tackle with the out-rushing Steadman before being left with the simple task of slotting into the empty net from 15 yards

The second half began perfectly for the visitors as they pressed hard and forced Brocton on to the back foot. A corner from the right was knocked into the net on the far post by Rick Costello to bring Bewdley back into the game .

Brocton wobbled in the immediate wake of that goal, but gradually began to come back into contention and only a series of point blank saves by Steadman at the feet of Andy Bourne, Craig Hulme and Hollingsworth as Brocton piled on the pressure, kept Bewdley on terms.

Inside the last 15 minutes Adam Whitehouse could only parry a free-kick and the alert Costello was first to the loose ball, giving Whitehouse no time to recover as he struck it home to make it 2-2.

Still the draw was not sealed and Steadman produced a super double save at the feet of Hulme and then Hollingsworth to deny Brocton a winner.

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SPORT

Ryno charge
Bowler just misses that perfect 10
Page 27



All tied up
Last-ball drama for Kidderminster Victoria
Page 27

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Double joy as records shattered at Cookley

TWO CLUB records were broken at Cookley courtesy of 59-year-old Ian Roberts.

Not only was he the oldest player to take to the field this century but he helped break a batting record too.

Both Cookley sides enjoyed emphatic maximum-point wins with the firsts still on course for promotion.

Cookley (24pts) 202-7, Tenbury (4pts) 170. Cookley won by 32 runs

Cookley entertained third place Tenbury who won the toss and elected to field.

The villagers posted a competitive 202-7 mainly thanks to a Steve Hawkes 50 and then bowled out the visitors for 170.

Skipper Gary Mills claimed 4-43 while there was a man of the match performance from Paul Thomas who followed up his unbeaten 39 by taking 4-57.

Cookley (24pts) 253-6, Worcester (2 pts) 132. Cookley won by 121 runs

Holidays ensured that this was very much a 'Dads Army' XI with eight players over 45.

Roberts, mentioned above, made 73 contributing to a new opening partnership club record of 185 with Mike Wood, who made 88. Cookley wobbled a touch at 198-6 but finished with 253-6. Worcester were disappointed with their reply of 132 all out.

No victories but Neal still leads

THREE rivals shared the wins in the latest British Touring Car Championship round at Snetterton – but it's Worcestershire's Matt Neal who leads the title race.

Jason Plato, Andrew Jordan and, for the first time, Dave Newsham were the three to take the top step in three action-packed races at the Norfolk circuit.

But Neal leads team-mate Gordon Shedden as the championship now heads to the latter's home circuit of Knockhill, Fife for the weekend of August 25-26.

Plato beat Preston's Frank Wrathall in race one with Lichfield's Jordan third.

The second race was won by Jordan after Plato's MG and Neal's Honda Civic collided and ran off the track with a lap to go. Neal recovered to take fourth.

Newsham won the third with Neal eighth after a spin.

Five-wicket Waldron removes top order

Alvechurch & Hopwood (2pts) 132, Stourport (24pts) 133-6. Stourport won by four wickets

STOURPORT took 24 points in their clash with Alvechurch and Hopwood to consolidate a mid-table position in Division Two of the Worcestershire County League.

After winning the toss, Alvechurch elected to bat, before Lee Waldron ripped through the top order to return fine figures of 5-39 from 14 overs. Andrew Cavendish chipped in with three late wickets to reduce Alvechurch to 132 all out in the 40th over.

In reply, 45 from Daniel Platt, and 23 from Andrew Siwicki helped Stourport to a winning total in the 30th over for the loss of six wickets. On Saturday, the firsts travel to the Black Country to meet Netherton.

Stourport Cricket Club

Bromyard (16pts) 268-8, Stourport (9pts) 249-9. Draw

Stourport seconds' inconsistent season continued as they returned from Bromyard with a losing draw.

Andrew Platt's 3-41 was not enough to stop Bromyard reaching 268-8 from their 50 overs.

In reply, several batsmen got good starts before losing wickets at crucial times. Spencer Colley made 67 and Phil Williams 50 in a tense finish as Stourport finished just 19 runs short of victory but with only one wicket standing.

Stourport (18pts) 244-4, Rushwick (2pts) 150-9. Draw

The thirds hold a 31-point lead at the top of Division Seven after they gained a winning draw against Rushwick.

Their tally could have been even bigger had they managed to take the crucial 10th wicket and secure victory.

Allan Moss (90 not out) and Edward Franklyn (81 not out) guided Stourport to 244-7 from their 45 overs. In reply, Rushwick were held to 150-9 with Stourport unable to prise out the last pair.

Stourport (16pts) 264-7, Kempsey (5pts) 189-5. Draw

Stourport fourths humbled Division Nine's runaway leaders Kempsey by amassing an imposing 264-7 from their 45 overs.

Daniel Downes (68), Dave Cook (65) and Ethan Lockwood (48) were the main contributors.

Kempsey never threatened to take the victory and Sam Foley (3-37) impressed with the ball.

Kempsey batted out for the losing draw and finished on 189-5.

BURR LOOKING TO START AN EXODUS

KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS manager Steve Burr believes handing the club's captaincy to Exodus Geohaghon will bring the best out of his summer signing this season.

Geohaghon led the side into last Saturday's campaign opener at Lincoln and was due to do so against Luton on Tuesday night, after replacing Mike Williams.

Williams and another former captain Keith Briggs, who rejoined the club in the close season, were both overlooked in favour of the new-boy.

Burr is hoping the armband will help the towering centre-half recapture the form that made him a force in non-league's top flight with Kettering, where he first made his name.

by Craig Birch

The 6ft 5in stopper has been with eight clubs since his exploits with the Poppies landed him a chance in the Championship with Peterborough in 2009.

But he only played 12 times for the club before falling out of favour and loan moves to Rotherham, Shrewsbury and Port Vale followed before Posh cancelled his contract, just seven months into a three-and-a-half year deal.

Experience

The 27-year-old joined Barnet on a short-term deal later that month, last August, before Darlington offered terms until the end of the season, eventually loaning him out to Dagenham & Redbridge.

Harriers offered him a home in July after tracking him for a year and he played under assistant boss Gary Whild from 2006 to 2008, when they was manager and player at Redditch.

Management have turned to the big defender as a key part of their side this season and Harriers chief Burr is hoping their faith pays off.

He said: "Exodus comes to us with a great deal of experience in both the Football League and at this level.

"The likes of Keith Briggs, Mike Williams and a number of others are all fantastic leaders and don't need an armband to show that.

"We just feel that the extra responsibility will be a boost for Exodus.

"I have no doubt that with it, he will really lead by example for the younger members of the squad."

While Geohaghon is leading the side, Harriers midfielder Jack Byrne just wants to stay injury free after his troubles last season.

Byrne missed long periods of the previous campaign through illness and a hamstring problem.

But the 23-year-old has battled back to fitness for the big kick-off despite picking up another niggle in the pre-season programme, again his hamstring bothering him.

And the England C international is keeping his fingers crossed his run of bad luck is finally over.

He said: "I am hoping for an injury free season to start with, last season was the first where I didn't play that many games and that was a bit of a shock for me.

"I picked up a hamstring strain early on and that's a bit disappointing because in pre-season you want to get as much fitness and game time as you can.

"Last week I was back in training and am starting to feel sharper and fitter and, hopefully, that can put me back in contention.

"I am still a bit behind everyone else, of course, but I am really looking forward to the rest of the season."

Another player with a target at Aggborough is striker Ryan Rowe, in his first full season for the club.

The Harriers hitman believes he can hit double figures in the Blue Square Premier over the campaign.

Rowe arrived for a five-figure fee from Stourbridge in last winter's transfer window and feels it has took time to make the step up.

The former road worker now has six months of full-time football under his belt and feels the difference in fitness and in form.

He said: "It was a big jump leaving Stourbridge last season and going from part-time to full-time, it was quite difficult early on but, now after pre-season I can kick on and get some goals.

"Ideally I want to try and get to double-figures, I got three in five games last season so there's no reason why not."



New Kidderminster Harriers captain Exodus Geohaghon is all smiles at his latest club

Bletcher keen for Carolians to build

NEW Kidderminster Carolians coach Ian Bletcher is looking to build on last season.

Bletcher took the reins with just four league matches to go – and ended with three wins and a draw to avoid relegation.

Now Carolians, who play in Midlands Two West (South), are looking to make progress.

The vastly experienced Bletcher is assisted by Stuart Eades and Tongan captain and Worcester Warrior Aleki Lutui.

Summer

The club are keen to establish a coaching regime from within and are monitoring current first team players Andy McLellan and Stu Such.

Always looking to strengthen the squad, KCs have recruited several players during the summer.

Bletcher believes that Kidderminster's players will benefit from Lutui's experience.

Commitment to training, which takes place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, has been rewarded with free kit and food.

Pre-season friendly games are being arranged,which will give new players a chance to show what they can do.

The league campaign kicks off on September 8 away to Earlsdon.

Longmore wins Nicholls Cup

Kidderminster Golf Club results.

Arthur Nicholls Cup (bogey competition): 1 Brian Longmore 8 up, 2 Graham Lloyd 6 up, 3 Andrew Thompson 5 up.

Eighteen-hole Stableford: 1 Josh Devenall 42 points, 2 Callum Hutchinson 40, 3 Josh Thorp 39, 4 Paul Upton 39.

Nine-hole Stableford: 1 Alan Emery 19 points, 2 Roy Evitts 15, 3 Harry Scrivens 15.

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CELEBRATING GENERATIONS OF FURNITURE RETAILING

For 27 years Cousins Furniture have continued to be one of the leading family owned furniture retailers in the UK, employing more than 140 staff with exciting plans for the future progress of the company.

Cousins was founded by three cousins - Robert, Edward and William - and the first Cousins' furniture store opened its doors in Tyseley, Birmingham, on 17th August 1985.

ORIGINS BACK TO 1921

The original family business had been established in 1921 and had originally specialised in selling items and materials reclaimed from household demolitions. It had sold such things as reclaimed timber, 19th Century fire surrounds and roll-top baths to builders, and also to private customers doing their own home improvements.

The business then developed into a builders' merchants, selling building materials, aggregates and, later, new fireplaces and baths, alongside the reclaimed items. Even at this early stage, they had built a private zoo on-site, which proved a huge attraction for all ages and an unbelievable "ahead-of-time" marketing tool for the firm.
As time moved on, the business began to sell household electrical items and also furniture, which was to become the future of the business.

COUSINS IN TYSELEY

The first Cousins furniture store opened in Tyseley, Birmingham in the Midlands in August 1985, where they traded from a 50,000ft² showroom with adjoining offices and warehouse. This new venture was a resounding success and the warehouse was soon relocated, and the showrooms subsequently expanded by 30%.



Cousins Furniture -Tyseley Store

COUSINS OPENS DUDLEY STORE

By 1995, a second retail site was acquired when they purchased the freehold of the landmark Tesco building in Dudley, in the West Midlands. This was transformed into a 90,000ft² furniture showroom, with its own customer restaurant. The store was opened on 17th August 1996, by Jack and Vera Duckworth from Coronation Street, bringing the town centre to a standstill.

A second, separate 12,000ft² unit was developed on the same site, opening in 1998. This sells budget ranges and end of line furniture.



Cousins Furniture -Dudley Store

A NEW HEAD OFFICE

Due to the resulting high sales volumes, the head office, warehouse and distribution functions were centralised to a 4 acre site in Oldbury on the side of the M5, which the company had purchased from B.P. Oils. This opened in September 1997 and the new 65,000ft² warehousing facility utilised a palletised, computer-generated order picking system and pioneered the use of articulated fork-lift trucks in the furniture industry.

The relocation of the main offices from Tyseley to Oldbury allowed fresh expansion and the subsequent refurbishment of the original Tyseley showrooms in 1999 - to its existing size of 90,000ft², complete with a new customer restaurant.

By November 2004, Cousins had set its sights on building a flagship store in Manchester and establishing itself in the North-West of England, having gained an unquestionable reputation for quality and service in the West Midlands.

COUSINS EXPAND IN MANCHESTER

They purchased a 4 acre site on the A57, Regent Road at the end of the M602 in Salford and soon built an inspirational 90,000ft² new concept flagship store which stands just 1.5 miles from the centre of Manchester. The store offers the largest selection of furniture in the whole of the North-West, and offers impressive room set displays that set new standards in the furniture industry.

The store has been acclaimed as England's finest furniture store, attracting customers from across the North-West and regularly from Liverpool, Preston, Yorkshire and the Lake District.

This flagship store also incorporates large lighting, picture and furniture accessories departments, plus a customer restaurant where you can contemplate your thoughts.

NEW DISTRIBUTION CENTRE

Due to the store's resounding success, the Company has had to re-think its initial plans to trunk home deliveries up the M6 from their Oldbury distribution centre. By Christmas 2005, they had opened a new 33,000ft2 warehouse close to Manchester Airport on the M56 which now forms the hub of their North-West home delivery network.

The success of the Manchester store's venture into home accessories saw the appointment of a Homewares Buyer, Samantha Gough in Summer 2008 with the subsequent opening of new Homewares Departments in the Tyseley Store, in the Midlands, in December 2008.

This exciting new venture includes departments for tableware, cookware, furnishing accessories, a picture and mirror gallery and bed linens. It has involved a significant investment, with a cutting edge store fit-out by Jameson Smith Associates and showcases leading brands such as Denby, Joseph Joseph, Newgate clocks and bed linen ranges from Kylie Minogue and Kirstie Allsopp.

2010 witnessed the opening of Cousins' first Stressless Comfort Studio in Manchester, showcasing the largest selection of these ergonomically designed chairs and sofas in the North West. Due to its resounding success, flagship studios were opened in the other two stores in April 2011. All now offer an unrivalled selection and shopping experience for this world leading brand.

April 2011 saw a significant change in the running of the business, with the appointment of John Shotton (Robert's eldest son) to Managing Director and Matthew Shotton (Robert's youngest son) to Retail Director. Robert now assumed the position of Chairman, further strengthening the family influence on the direction of the business.



Left to right, John Shotton, Thomas Shotton, Robert Shotton, Richard Foster, Edward Shotton and Matt Shotton.

Alongside these corporate changes came the groundbreaking appointment of the first non-family member to the board of directors.

Richard Foster became Operations Director having started with the company as an 18 year old junior bedding sales consultant when the Dudley store opened in 1996. Richard now oversees the systems, warehousing, distribution and customer services functions.

THE FUTURE IS EVOLVING

Retail continues to evolve and is no longer just a bricks-and-mortar operation; increasing emphasis is now being placed online with the internet and various social media channels. 2012 has seen a significant commitment and investment by Cousins toward enhancing their online presence and service. In March, Cousins entered into an agreement with BT Fresca, a world leading web platform provider and development company to build a brand new website, due to launch at the end of the year.

The new Cousins website will integrate fully with existing in-store systems to provide a seamless multi-channel shopping experience with unprecedented levels of service, usability and functionality. This will then be followed by the opening of a mobile site in Autumn 2013.

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